# THEINDEPENDENT

**Antonia Fraser:** the tyrant, the King and I FRONT

**Geek chic:** men's fashion in Paris PAGE 12

INTHE WEDNESDAY REVIEW



The past few

days have been

everyone, but

that is as noth-

ing compared to

any offence that

may have been caused to dis-

abled people in

our community

and our country'

Football Association

'I accept that I

made a serious

judgement in an

interview which

derstanding and pain to a number

of people. This

this I apologise

was never my

caused misun-

error of

- David Davies,

painful for

# Hoddle 0, Disabled 1 (Hoddle o.g.)

BY JOHN DAVISON and LINUS GREGORIADIS

GLENN HODDLE was sacked from his position as England coach last night after admitting a "serious error of judgement" in expressing controversial beliefs about reincarnation and

The announcement was made by David Davies, acting chief executive of the Football Association, after days of speculation over the England coach's future. "With regret the FA and Glenn Hoddle have agreed to terminate Glenn's contract," said Mr Davies. "After more than 24 hours of meetings and discussions it became apparent to all those concerned that this was the right decision for English football."

Par Per

100 M

- How Hoddle paid the final penalty
- Wilkinson takes
- Sport, pages 26-28 Leading article,
- Review, page 3 ■ Hunter Davies, Review, page 4

Hoddle later admitted his error, saying: "I accept that I made a serious error of judgement in an interview which pain to a number of people. This was never my intention and for this I apologise."

Just a minute after beginning his statement. Mr Davies had to take what he jokingly dehreak" caused by a disturbance in the hall. A man wearing a Liverpool shirt burst into the room and started chanting "We want Hoddle out" before being wrestled to the floor and bundled away by security guards.

After beginning again, Mr had become increasingly untenable for both the FA and for been painful for everyooe inany offence that may have been of the England team for its

career ended last night with a

Looking out at the massed

GLENN HODDLE'S England BY GARY FINN

solitary slow hand clap from the terse statement acknowledging

ranks of photographers, tele- FA has been terminated by

vision crews and sports writers, mutual consent," he said. "I ac-

Hoddle, flanked by his agent, cept that I made a serious

Dennis Roach, delivered a error of judgement in an inter-

media scrum that expedited his his own part in his downfall.

community and in our country.

Davies continued: "The position Glenn and his employers."

In short, the FA was left with no option. It was also an-Glenn. The past days have nounced that Howard Wilkinson, the FA's technical director,

next Wednesday.

THE FOOTBALL

ASSOCIATION

Hoddle was reported in The

influential members of the FA's

Geoff Thompson, acting FA chairman; Noel White, committee chairman from Liverpool; David Richards; the

it will not change my belief that the world is unfair to a huge number of people and that I am luckier than most. I will continue to care for the poor, the

disabled and abused." Downing Street last night refused to comment, but Tony as contemplating his own Banks, the Sports minister, said: "It is a personal tragedy that Glenn Hoddle's career as

views as expressed caused distress to many disabled sports men and women who have achieved so many sporting tri-

umphs for the country." Not even a late personal appeal from Hoddle's daughter yesterday afternoon could save him. In a letter to BBC Ceefax, Zara Hoddie, 13, said: "I am very supportive of disabled people

their job and to have so much hassle over. If you would take time to listen to what his explanation is then maybe you would understand it a bit

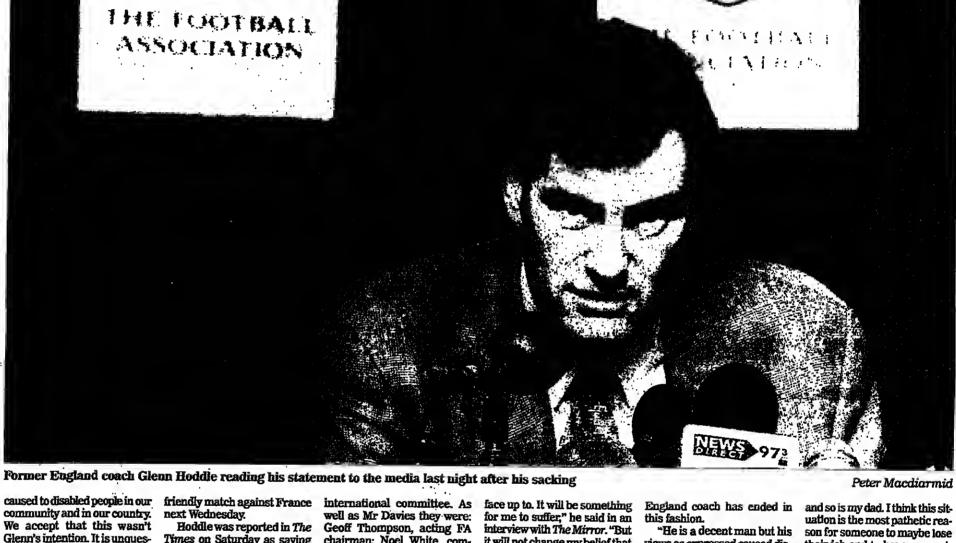
- Glenn Hoddle, ex-England coach

more ... Hopefully everything will be back to normal soon." The FA, the press and the world had listened, and - in so far as they understood what

Hoddle was talking about - fi-

nally decided that his views

were anything but normal.



scribed as a "commercial Former England coach Glenn Hoddle reading his statement to the media last night after his sacking

#### We accept that this wasn't Glenn's intention. It is unquestionable, though, that the controversy over what was or wasn't said has damaged both

volved. But that is as nothing to had been asked to take charge

"Regretfully, you will have heard that my contract with the

IN THIS SECTION

Brian Viner on

the voice of the

Union sport, page 22 🕏

Times on Saturday as saying that disabled people were paying for sins committed in previous lives, and the resulting row brought in Tony Blair on the side of those who thought he should go if the statements were shown to be accurate.

Hoddle's fate was decided

view which caused misunder-

standing and pain to a number

of people. This was never my in-

tention, and for this I apologise.

support from loved ones, fam-

ily, friends and media col-

leagues who have worked with

"My sincere thanks for the

Sheffield Wednesday chairman; David Sheepshanks, chairman of Ipswich; and David Dein, vice-chairman of Arsenal. Hoddle was earlier reported

demise. "If I get the sack, then that is something I will have to

personal thanks go to all my staff, colleagues and in partic-

ular the players, with whom I have worked with over the past

two years as England coach. I

thank them deeply. My best

wishes go to Howard Wilkinson,

John Gorman, who take over for

### Solitary slow handclap for departing coach He took no questions and left the conference at the Royal Lancaster Hotel to the lone clap. His father, Eric, speaking from his home in Harlow, Essex, was furious. "The press



# Kosovo peace hopes rise as rebels join talks

me over the past few days to try the match against France.

and establish the truth. My Thank you very much."

INTERNATIONAL HOPES for a By RAYMOND WHITAKER peace deal in Kosovo rose sharply yesterday after a spokesman for the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), the ethnic Albanian guerrillas fighting a war of independence against Serbia, announced that the group would attend talks due to

start near Paris on Saturday. Jakup Krasniqi, spokesman for the general headquarters of ternational community's sumthe KLA said: "We are defi-mons to the talks at the chateau

time the rebels have agreed to participate in negotiations.

The KLA will today name its negotiators for the talks, which are the last hope of averting more death and suffering for the population of Kosovo. The rebels' acceptance of the inian side have agreed to attend, several figures around Mr Miloand the world is now waiting for the answer of the Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic.

Nato has threatened air strikes if the Serbs do not come to the negotiating table. James Rubin, the US State Department spokesman, said; "I think the Serb side will be making a big, big mistake if they doubt

the determination of Nato to use military power if they fail to

tend, the President has handed the decision to parliament, which is to vote tomorrow. Nato has also imposed a deadline of two weeks from Saturday for a deal to he

reached, but what will happen if and when the talks start at Rambouillet remains in question. Mr Krasniqi said yesterday that the KLA would call a referendum on independence

terim autonomy plan, expected sevic that the Serbs would atto last three years, runs out. While this appears to be a

softening of previous demands by the group for immediate independence, any suggestion that Kosovo should be allowed to break away will be unacceptable to Mr Milosevic. The potential for disunity on the Albanian side was also demonstrated yesterday when Adem Demaci, the KLA political spokesman, said he would recommend to the military com-

mand that they stay away from

"We are being asked to France not to make peace, but to capitulate," he said. "If the Serbs want to negotiate, the first thing they should do is withdraw all their forces from Kosovo."

Hours later, the veteran political figure, who has spent 27 years in Yugoslav jails, was contradicted by Mr Krasniqi. Politics and bodies, page 14 Leading article,

#### nitely going to the talks with our of Rambouillet means that all proposals." It marked the first the main players on the Albanshow up at these negotiations." from Yugoslavia after any in-Despite indications from **INSIDE THE REVIEW**

**INSIDE THIS SECTION** Louise Sullivan freed The nanny who admitted shaking a baby to death was freed by a judge

isle of Man UDI The Manx independence flag was waved

The German Chancellor admitted government had made mistakes Foreign P12

Senate trial prosecutors

Foreign P13

Schroder's 100 days

Clinton ally testifies Vernon Jordon met the

Accountants fined The world's largest accountancy firm fined over Maxwell affair **Business P16** 

Banks criticises IOC Sports minister attacks IÔC in Switzerland Sport P22

Anne McElvoy Approving human cloning requires more than a street poll Comment P3

Ken Livingstone Government is more Old Labour than it thinks Comment P4

**Margaret Cook** The Foreign Secretary's former wife answers your questions Features P8

Wheel of fortune Lottery funding means disaster for the arts Arts P10







My friend suffers from depression and feels employers are unsympathetic. How can I help?

# FILM **ANTHONY QUINN** ON HIDEOUS KINKY PLUS LAW. **EDUCATION &** FAST TRACK

JOHN WALSEL RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, DEBORALFORR THOMAS SUTCIFIED MILES KINGTON, SUT ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMELLE

# Ministers in review of Secrets Act

THE GOVERNMENT is considering whether members of the security services who speak out should be allowed to claim their disclosures are in the public

The move follows the decision by a French court last November to reject Britain's Shayler case. They insisted application to extradite David Shayler, a former MI5 agent, to face charges under the Official Secrets Act after he revealed details of M15 operations in a tection to staff who blow the newspaper Senior Labour MPs have told Tony Blair they believe the court would have been much more likely to extradite Mr Shayler if a "public interest defence" had existed under British law.

The Prime Minister has told Labour backbench leaders that he understands their concerns about the lack of such a defence for whistleblowers in MI5 and report back to them shortly.

The Official Secrets Act imposes a lifelong duty of confidentiality on the security services. Any disclosure is illegal, regardless of the public interest, and punishable by two years' imprisonment.

Ministers confirmed last night that they were investi-gating the MPs' claims that a "public interest defence" might have made a difference in the that no decision had been taken on amending the Act, but they will consider whether the Government should offer some prowhistle out of conscience rather than to secure money.

Ministers are reluctant to respond directly to the Shayler affair, as they insist that many of his claims - including a plot by MI6 to kill Libya's Colonel Gaddafi - were bogus.

Labour's Parliamentary Committee, which represents the views of its backbenchers in talks with the Cabinet, has MI6. He has promised he will told Mr Blair that the existence of such a "conscience clause" could have spared the Government's embarrassment over the Shayler affair.

There is strong pressure from Labour MPs for the Government to amend the 1989 Act, which Labour opposed

when it was introduced by the Tories. Supporters of reform include Chris Mullin, chairman of the Home Affairs Select Committee, and Clive Soley, chairman of the Parliamentary Lahour Party.

In another reform, the Government is considering setting up a special tribunal for disaffected workers in the intelligence services to enable them to "let off steam" without going

The proposed tribunal, which could be made up of carefully vetted members hearing cases in private, was recommended by the all-party Intelligence and Security Committee - chaired by Tom King, the former Tory secretary of state for defence - which monitors the services.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, has accepted that MI5 and MI6 staff should "as much as possible, enjoy the same rights as other employees". But he said the Government remained "committed to maintaining a strong defence against illegal disclosures by the [intelligence] agency staff



A police search team beading for Exeter Canal. A body was found after two men were arrested

### Two men arrested in canal boy hunt

BY CHRIS COURT

A BODY recovered from a canal in Devon vesterday is believed to be that of a 16-yearold boy who has been missing since Friday night.

Two men were arrested in connection with the death.

Police divers discovered the body, thought to be that of George Mortimer, in the water a few hundred yards from his home in Exeter. The body was found in reeds on the edge of the city's ship canal when the search was widened with extra personnel, police

The results of a post mortem examination should be released this morning.

Two men were arrested in the Altrineham area of Greater Manchester vester day and were driven to Exeter, where they were still being questioned by police late last night. It is believed one of the men may have gone to the canal to assist officers in their hunt for the boy.

George went missing after telling a friend on Friday night he was meeting two men by the canal, police have said. He was due to meet friends at one of their homes in the city for a regular gathering at around 7pm and stay overnight, but he failed to arrive.

He was reported missing by his family on Saturday

# Accountancy giant fined £3.5m for role in Maxwell affair

THE WORLD'S largest accountancy firm, Pricewaterhouse-Coopers, and four of its partners, have been ordered to Disciplinary Tribunal yesterday pay fines and costs totalling £2bn collapse of the network of companies headed by the late

punishment to date, the Price Waterhouse, showed:

Robert Maxwell.

accountancy profession's Joint said the firm "had lost the plot" nearly £3.5m for their role in the in its dealings with the Maxwell empire. The tribunal ruled that the four partners in the firm, known as Coopers & Lybrand Delivering its most serious prior to last year's merger with

shortcomings in hoth vigilance and diligence and a failure to achieve an appropriate degree of objectivity and scepticism, which might have led to an earlier recognition and exposure of the reality of what was occurring".

The tribunal, chaired by Roger Henderson QC and including Ian McNeil, a past John Cowling, Ian Steere, tating a 'whistleblowing' re- us". But he added that the

president of the Institute of sidered 35 complaints against Coopers and 24 against the four individual partners in relation to their role at Mirror Group Newspapers and various

made of the four partners -

private Maxwell companies. Lengthy criticisms were

Stephen Wootten and Nicholas Chartered Accountants, con- Parker Among the complaints made against the firm were "failing to consider, in the light of its knowledge by the beginning of August 1991, whether there was evidence of fraud, other irregularities, defaults or unlawful acts in relation to the Maxwell entities necessi-

port", and in July 1991 "failing Maxwell case had caused all to advise the board of Robert Maxwell Group that substantial additional work needed to be done in order to be satisfied the company was a going concern".

Peter Hazell, managing part-ner of PricewaterhouseCoopers, said the affair had been "a

accountancy firms to change the way they did business. Prior to the scandal, auditing pension funds was considered a low-risk

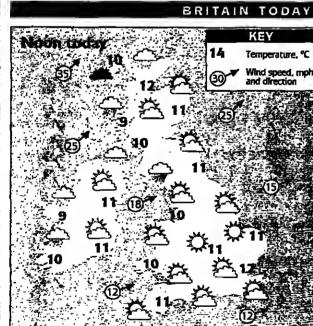
activity, be said. He added that the four partners concerned had been subjected to robust monitoring source of embarrassment for in the wake of the affair but,

exercise, remained fiedged partners.

Ken Trench, chairman of the Maxwell Pensioners Action Group, said the ruling was "a small price to pay for allowing Maxwell to risk and lose the pension funds of 32,000 employees by dodgy accounting".

Outlook, page 17

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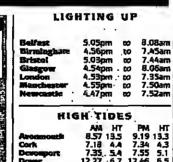
N Wales, NW England, Lake Dist, little drizzle at times near coasts and wind. Max temp 8-11C (46-52F).

NW Scotland, W Isles: Windy with drizzle and fog over coasts and hills, A fresh to strong south-west wind. Max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

Thursday will be breezy everywhere with gales in Scotland when order, feeling fresher everywhere on Friday with snow showers he risk of a shower elsewhere. A cold weekend to come with as if snow in many parts of the country.

N Isles: Rain then drizzie. A fresh southerly wind strengthening strong to gale force south-westerly. Max temp BC (46F).

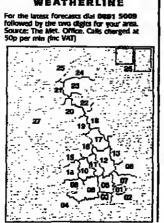
er: A12 Green Man Houndabout, etone. Major roadworks on new M11 ef. Until 31st December. fdgeshire A10 belween Foxion and Cambridgeshire A10 between Foxton and M11. Resurtacing and bridge maintenance work at Shepreth Mill. Until 14th February. Bristok: M5 J18-19. Major Ricadworks on Avormouth Bridge. Until 23rd Jane 2001. Lancashire: M6 Between J27 Standish and L28 Leytand. Floathouts; contrallow and a 50mph speed limit either side of Charnock Richard Services. Until 15th February. Greater Manchester-A57. Nerow lanes Manchester-bound, due to Metrolink con-



AIR QUALITY

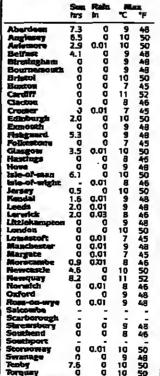
SUN & MOON

WEATHERLINE r the latest forecasts dial 0691 5009 lowed by the two digits for your area. Urce: The Met. Office. Calls charged at to per min (inc VAT)



### YESTERDAY EXTREMES

Nettest: Harrapool 0.13 ins For 24ths to 2pm Tuesday



ō

RAIN OR SHINE...

RESIDENTS IN Wigrton, Ontario, are mourning the loss of their star weather forecaster, the groundhog Wiarton Willie, who died on Sunday two days before he was to make his 22nd appearance at the town's Groundhog Day festival According to folklore, if the sun was out when Willie peeped out on 2 February it meant six more weeks of cold weather. Residents are claiming his death indicates an early spring.



THE WORLD YESTERDAY

### Mowlam in crisis talks on peace process

BY ALAN MURDOCH in Dublin

NORTHERN IRELAND Secretary Mo Mowlam will today hear of deepening Irish unease over the state of the peace process in crisis talks in Dublin with the Taoiseach and Irish foreign minister.

The latest meeting comes with both governments seeing no solution in sight to the IRA arms decommissioning logism and, without it, a hardening of Ulster Unionist opposition to Sinn Fein joining the Northern Ireland Executive. Senior sources described the situation as "very bleak", with Irish ministers concerned that further disunity or realignment in republican paramilitary ranks

may hinder any compromise. The Taoiseach, Bertie Ahero, maintains the arms issue can only be resolved through the decommissioning body, but Irish sources admit no progress is being made. Challenged in the Dail yes-

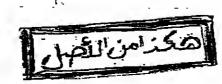
terday, Mr Ahearn declined to give official weight to sugges-tions of weakening IRA discipline. An armed robbery on a security van in south Dublin last month by five masked men armed with Kalashnikov rifles was widely linked to dissident republicans and, in one newspaper recently, disaffected IRA members. The IRA has more than 500 of the rifles, supplied hy Libya in the mid-Eighties. Mr Ahern said despite wide-



spread speculation immediately afterwards about one group's involvement, gardai had not yet concluded whether the raid was definitely paramilitary or criminal. He rejected press suggestions that the ernment was suppressing knowledge of IRA involvement

Pressed by Opposition parties, be agreed to ask garda authorities to state which paramilitary groups were ap-parently behind specific military-style actions once investigations were complete.

On Sunday's reported ab-duction of dissident republican and former IRA prisoner Paddy Fox, Mr Ahern said he regarded "any act of violence as a breach of the ceasefires" but said the difficulty lay in providing proof. He also rejected further calls to name paramilitary suspects.



DISCREDITED

DEFENCE

physically given two hands

'The karma is working from another lifetime. I

have nothing to hide about that. It is not only people

with disabilities. What you

The man asked me about

why people are sometimes

born into poverty. There is

an imbalance, and injustice.

'For someone to go and

Grandstond, 30 Jonuary

The only reason people are

saying I should resign is

come out and said that

people disabled and

handicapped have been

this moment in time, if

that changes in years to

'It is absolute nonsense

being punished for their

sins in another lifetime.

that I said these people are

That is just not what I said.

come, I don't know,...

paying for their sins, and l

have never ever said that.

'I don't believe that. At

ITN, 1 February

that they are saying I have

reincarnation. I tried to

give him an example of

misconstrue this about

disabled people is

outrageous."

The Times, 30 Jonuary

sow, you have to rean."

You and I have been

and two legs and half-

decent brains. Some people have not been born

like that for a reason.

### FILM ANTHONY QUINN ON HIDEOUS KINKY PLUS LAW EDUCATION & FAST TRACK

PAZMINENKI

Two men arrested in canal boy hunt

By Chris Cot R1

A ROBY revovered from 2 canal in Deven vesterday's inducted to be that on a layer. old key who has been missing since Friday might Two men were arrested a

connection with the death Poince divers a scovered the body, thought to be that George Mortimer in the sale e lew hundred yards from he home in Excier The book was found in reeds on the edge of the city a ship cara when the search was watered with extra personnel tolks

The results of a pagmettem examination show be released this membrane

Two men were errowing the Altrinoham area of Greater Manage (c) page day and were december. But where they were it been questioner la police latere might It is believed to be men that have down by manual to assess a more in the Butte bur ther can

George wort many to telling a formal of the co 動作 納羅s promise, in. top. The ration ivers of the R was die bertem generalies ref efterar fremmen mit bei bie gerigerter entlier i.v. eine Tours dead MAN . It was ..... tailed to diver-

be his fare and security

# vell affair

Berilgers : 2000 Aug Tres. the Marec.

Business per talliant, thinks

### crossing the hard men of the press By GLENN MOORE Football Correspondent IT WAS a balmy evening in

Stockholm last September. England were leading Sweden by a goal to nil and the 3,000 Englishmen at one eod of the Rasunda stadium were beeri-

To their left, however, in the press box, support was less enthusiastic. As Sweden scored twice in three minutes to take a surprise lead it became clear that, for some, their desire to get rid of Glenn Hoddle had overwhelmed their patriotism. "That's more like it," said

one, rubbing his hands. "Now let's see him get out of this one." It was not always like this. As recently as last June the English press box had erupted in joy when Michael Owen scored that goal against Argentina. But even then the relationship with Hoddle was on the slide.

By the time England reached Sweden it had been shattered and, yesterday, Hoddle suffered the consequences. Make no mistake, the furore over his alleged comments disparaging people with disabilities is directly related to a relationship with the press which comes close to a state of mutual loathing.

It was all so different in May 1996 when the FA announced be would be taking over from Terry Venables at the end of that summer's European Championship. At 38, he was the eighth and youngest Eng-land coach and he brought with him an immense amount of goodwill generated by memories of his talent as a player with Tottenham Hotspur

The honeymoon lasted six months during which he and the team acquitted themselves well, although it was apparent he was very different to his prederessor. Though Venables had enemies in the media he had enjoyed the company of journalists, entertaining them at his west Loodon drinking club and spending time with them on trips to Europe and after press conferences at the team's

Hoddle was different: His contempt for the tabloid media was thinly veiled. Garth Crooks, a former

Spurs colleague now with the BBC, said: "It will be half-anhour before he treats me like an old team-mate. He is now in a profession which has made him cautious."

Early on the FA hosted an off-the-record lunch between Hoddle and football correspondents in an attempt to foster better relations. It served little purpose, he was not prepared to let his guard slip and

Hoddle says disabled are paying price of sin





Dear Cellox,

Hoddle pays the final penalty for

Iam zara Hoddle and I would just people, so is my bod, but I think that this. situation is the most pathetic reason for someoner to have mayby lost their to and to have so much hassie over. If you would just take the time to itten to what his explanation is the musician would understand by a bit more.

Hoddle's demise (clockwork from top left), from the "Times' story to Tony Blair's comments on the 'Richard and Judy Show', avoiding the press and his daughter's letter

left early. Even the admirable and, while nothing negative decision to be more even-handed than Venables brought him little advantage, everyone felt left out instead of just a few.

After a potentially damaging home defeat to Italy in early 1997, doubts about his judgment good results meant relations were amicable, though rarely warm, when the return match

arrived in Rome that October. England had to avoid defeat to qualify for the World Cup finals and Hoddle, deciding the end justified the means, misled the press about the captaincy and players' fitness'-even asking players to feign injury dur-

Military on Lindonwister's corner and conditions. Credit is subject to status and available only to persons aged 18 or over Witten que

non of through MCL Reserve Ltd., 77 Mount Ephrains Tembridge Walks, Keet TN4 SBS, a member of Lloyds LTD Typical example, Plants 323 Shines at £11,995, 6ep

seen Zirts January and 31st Hersh 1999. Offer mutisides validies purchased our free, via Motability, coopers him vehicles or by Ca

ing the last training session. Though England got the result they needed the press, who had made mistakes in print, were made to look foolish. Some big egos were dented

was written, mental notes were made. "That was a turning point," said one senior FA official yesterday.

In the months that followed relations worsened, particularly with the arrival on the striker, Michael Owen. ... First Hoddle told a journal-

ist in a pooled briefing, that the teenager had to be careful about "off-field-activities". Banner headlines ensued, Hoddle denied saying the comment and the journalist had to print a transcript of the taped interview to clear his name.

Then Hoddle said Owen was "not a natural goalscorer". He meant his game was about more than just scoring goals but tabloids seized on the quote and have never let him forget it.

minders were becoming paranoid. When England travelled to Berne to play Switzerland, Hoddle was asked to pose by a row of snow-covered hicycles. "Oh, no," came the word from the FA. "We can see the head-

lines now: "On your bike Hod." night, after England drew 1-1, Hoddle was quizzed on team selection at Berne airport. "Basi-

cally", he said, "I don't care two monkeys what the press think -and you can quote me on that." Little things began to matter. Most football press conferences are at lunchtime. Hoddle started arranging his, in Berkshire, at times which coincided with the M25 rush-hour and, more seriously, put journalists under great

pressure to meet deadlines. Traditionally the team and ress had travelled to away By March, Hoddle and his matches on the same plane.

Soon we were not even travelling from the same airport. All this created a them-and-

us attitude. The press responded by leaping on the involvement of the faith-healer Eileen Drewery with the team. She was derided as an ex-"voodoo women". Hoddle's eccentric beliefs were gleefully lampooned.

Revenge was in the air but there was also a serious side. Hoddle's beliefs and personality were affecting the team one players said joining the squad was like entering a religious cult, another was dropped after mocking Drewery. A player chatting about the World Cup told me: "You'd better leave that out, the manage

er doesn't like anything that sounds like criticism." The World Cup highlighted

England's reclusiveness with foreign journalists appalled at the limited access to Hoddle, his players and training sessions.

However, apart from the complaint that Owen should have been played earlier, criticism was muted while England submerged by the gallant nature of their exit.

Hoddle's World Cup diary reopened the debate with journalists seething at revelations which contradicted statements he made at the time. Selling it to The Sun made matters worse with rival newspapers. Hoddle dropped his even-

handed approach, meeting "sympathetic" journalists, placing positive stories and giving one-to-one interviews on specific subjects. This is what was supposed to happen with The

with a cutting about his views

on reincarnation. With a page

to fill it was not so much a trap

as an insurance policy but Hod-

dle turned it into a noose and

happily tightened the rope.

nt his bead in. The media has

While some would claim his

scalp, the press cannot take full

blame - or credit - for Hoddle's

dismissal. The golden rule of

managing England is that as

long as you are winning, you can

get away with almost anything.

three of their last eight com-

petitive matches, two against

the makeweights Tunisia and

Luxembourg. With better re-

sults, and the press behind

him, he would have survived

this storm. With both against he

had no chance.

Hoddle's England have won

'I am not angry, I am devastated and very frustrated about the situation ... | didn't say those things as they have However knowing Hoddle's tendency to blandness, the jourbeen reported." nalist concerned armed himself Sky, 1 February

The reporter from The

Times did not misquote me, but he did misinterpret me. 'Certainly, I do not

believe disabled people deserve what they get. That would be an obscene thought. But I am seeking some reason for their suffering, as I am sure many disabled people do for themselves.

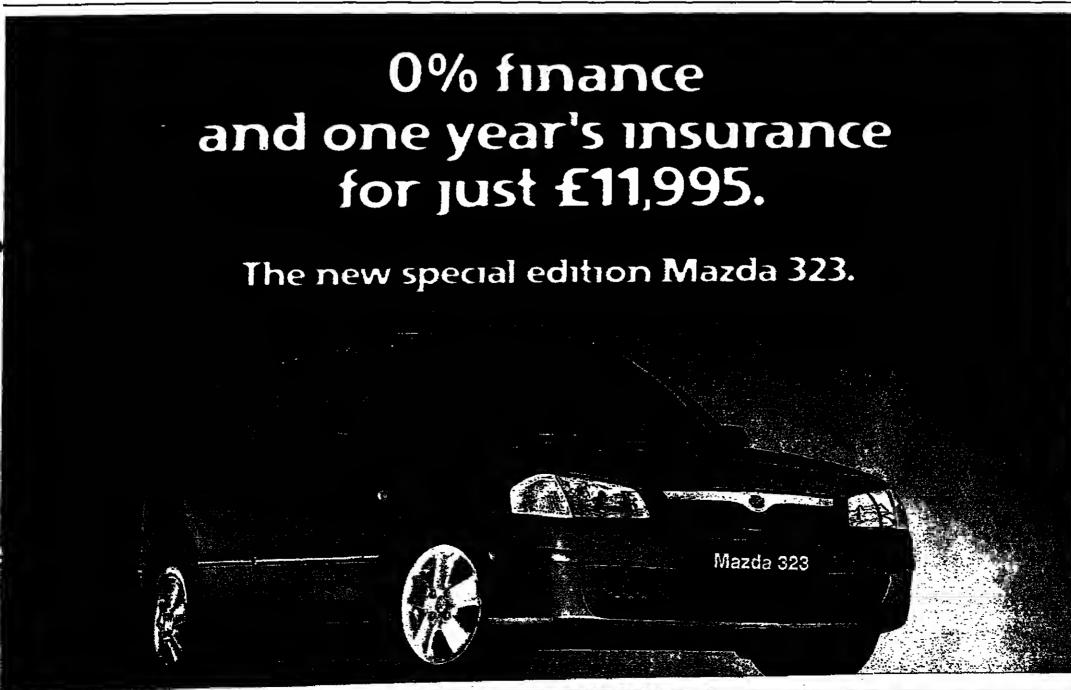
'I now stand accused of being heartless, of being cruel and of deliberately upsetting and insulting handicapped people. I cannot overstate how much that upsets me."

The Mirror, 2 February

wlam in is talks on ce process

of the processing the facilities

A MI THE LOT IN del to december and



of features, all for only £11,995.

3 year warranty	][
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Front electric windows	][
Detver's airbag	
Rear spoller	
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Aroma Red metallic pelet	][
60/40 split folding rear seats	110

You'll be amazed at a Mazda

# Abattoirs shut by inspectors' strike

BUTCHERS AND supermarkets were facing an escalating cam-paign of industrial action at slaughterhouses after meat inspectors staged a 24-hour stop-

The Meat Hygiene Service said the strike would have a limited impact on supplies. However, officials at the public service union, Unison, said that most large red-meat abattoirs

By BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

were shut yesterday and predicted that there would be twoday and three-day strikes ss the service improved the 4 per cent pay offer.

ment calculated that 450 out of 513 red-meat slaughterbouses were operational and 152 out of 156 white-meat

plants. Managers said 60 per cent of staff worked normally. Unison criticised management for employing Spanish vets to cover for striking abattoir

workers, arguing that they were inexperienced. However, Johnstone McNeill, chief executive of the service, said that overseas vets often undertook the work and were suitably qualified. Inspectors registered con-

dation" when they returned to work. As up to 1,000 officials staged their day-long protest, it became clear that the dispute also centred on what the inspectors say is a "climate of fear" at Britain's abattoirs.

Inspectors told The Independent that production lines were run at "breakneck speeds" in the

cause of the keemness of slaughterhouse men to earn bonnses. The inspectors' job was to stop the line if they considered a car-cass to be unsafe and officials often had to face the ire of those whose income was being affect-

ed, according to Unison. One inspector in the Northwest, who had decided to leave the service after years of alleged wat of faeces, offal and spinal cords - stripped out because of the crisis over bovine spongiform encephalopathy - as a "prank".

according to his colleagues. Inspectors have been locked in freezers, threatened with knives and guns, beaten up and had their cars stolen. Offices and property have been vandalised. Unison said from a survey it car-

man is shouting at you with his face within two inches of yours and he's brandishing a large knife, that's intimidation," one inspector told The Independent.

Mr McNeill said the service worked closely with mest companies, but production lines were stopped regularly to ensure

ried out, three-quarters of staff had been verbally abused. the safety of the products. The service tooks "very robust line" over intimidation and violence. MA Manchester siaughterman was fined £500 for assaulting a female Most Hygiene Service vet and ordered to pay £50 compensation. Magistrates were told that Mobamed Alvane Shelkh, 43, prodded the vet in the shoulder and used abusive and threatening language.

# Norfolk 12 prepare for flight home

THE NORFOLK 12, the party of BY ANDREW MARSHALL boisterous holidaymakers thrown off a holiday flight to Jamaica and dumped at Norfolk airport in Virginia, seemed to be on the last stage of their aborted journey last night.

As they headed into their third day of enforced exile, some were preparing to board a flight that would bring them back to London this morning.

Bedraggled, subdued and definitely sobered up, the holidaymakers - who say they were innocent victims of an onboard row - were furious with the British Embassy and Airtours International their tour company, which refused to fly them back or provide any assistance.

The tour company reiterated that there had been a fight on the Boeing 767 taking them to Montego Bay and said it had no

Some of them still in their holiday finery, some wearing "I love Virginia" T-shirts, they sat huddled in the smoking lounge waiting for their departure.

Outside, it was not the sumdrenched beaches of Montego Bay which awaited them, but the dripping grey skies of a Virginia winter's day. Back in England, a welcome party of the police and the media was also ready.

Angela Driscoll, 20, said she had been asleep when the incident took place which brought

in Norfolk, Virginia

"Five or six of us were asleep." she said, "and some of us had had a few drinks. They were singing, but low."

She said one of the party, Miles Connor, went to the toilet, where a man told him to "shut your women up".

"Miles said, "There's no need to be aggressive. They're only enjoying themselves', and the man threw a glass of beer at him," she said.

She said another member of the party got up "to calm the sit-uation down" and the other man, she says, threatened them with violence when they arrived in Jamaica. "There was no punches, no fighting, just a little bit of a dispute."

That little bit of a dispute led to interviews with the FBI and the airport police. No charges were brought, but the Norfolk 12 are stranded in Virginia. They were put up at the local Hilton for the night - courtesy of GMTV, says Ms Driscoll - and fed by the airport authorities. They subsisted on loans from the press corps and the kindness of the American people.

The party was trying to negotiate a flight back to Britain, but with fares of about £1,200, they were "a few hundred short". It was not clear if all



Three of the 12 passengers stranded at Norfolk airport, in Virginia, talk to a member of staff from American Airlines (second left)

# They saved an awful long time for this holiday'

IN A CRAMPED, plushly deco- By CLARE GARNER rated caravan, below a railway line in Lewisham, south-east London, the relatives of a group of holidaymakers accused of a mid-air brawl waited for the lunchtime news.

As images of her three granddaughters laughing as they were ejected from their holiday flight filled the screen, 84-year-old Anne Doherty squinted, holding one of her her holiday to an end in Amer- would return last night, or many statues of the Virgin ica's equivalent of Portsmouth. whether some have to stay on. Mary. "I'm very worried about

them, My grandson's got asthma," she said. "They only went on holiday to help his chest."

The home of the Virginia 12 is a long way from the blue waters of Jamaica's Montego Bay, where they had been bound. The group of caravans rented by the "travellers" sit in the middle of a car park littered with supermarket trolleys and These "holiday homes" cost more than a year.

£50 a week - somewhat cheaper than the £1,500-a-couple cost ever been anywhere. They took of their aborted trip to the

"They saved an awful long time for this holiday," said Tonie Smith, 12, the son of Noreen Sanders, one of the holidaymakers. He was staying with his grandmother in Bermondsey while his mother was away. They had, he said, been looking forward to their escape from patrolled by large black dogs. the Lewisham caravan site for

a few drinks because they

hadn't flown before." According to a male member of the family who declined to be named, the party's ejection from the flight came about purely as a result of anti-Irish feeling. He, like many members of the extended family, had plenty of theories both as to why the authorities had decided to ruin the "once in a lifetime" trip

"That's the first time they've had been the only ones to suf- want is to have them back. fer. "They're out there for a They didn't murder anyone. joyride," he said as he strode up and down the busy road. "What's wrong with a holiday?"

Inside the caravan, Bridget Driscoll, mother of three of the party, drew heavily on her cigarette. She said she hadn't slept since her daughter, Elizabeth, phoned her in tears on Sunday. As few of the community can read, they have been dependent on the television to - and why the Lewisham party piece together the story. "All we tain her pride.

They didn't rape anyone," she said. "We are a well-bred, respectable family. One man caused the problem. It's not fair, punishing so many people for

other people's dealings."
Despite the end of their dream holiday, and the ignominious circumstances of her family's foray into the public eye, Mrs Doherty, still glued to the screen, couldn't quite con-

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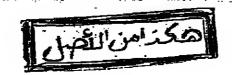
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### THE INDEPENDENT

# strike Freed nanny maind software took a reconstruction of the parameter of for therapy

LOUISE SULLIVAN, the Australian nanny who pleaded guilty to shaking a baby to death, was preparing to fly home last night after a judge decided that "exceptional circumstances" meant she should not be jailed.

Sullivan, 27, will return to Australia by the end of this week. There she will receive psychiatric and psychological treatment Dr Anthony Cairns, a forensic psychiatrist, told the Old Bailey yesterday that he thought she was suffering from a psychotic disorder, mental impairment and was on the edge of being retarded.

In court, Mr Justice Mitchell said that he would normally have imposed an immediate prison sentence, hut he believed Sullivan had no insight into her problems.

Sentencing her to 18 months' imprisonment, suspended for two years, he said: "Nothing can put the clock back or restore that baby to her mother and father, or end the pain of the parents or their anguish. I can only hope - having braved the ordeal of these proceedings that they will understand why I have decided to allow her to return to Australia."

Whether Marcel and Muriel Jongen - whose six-month-old

By Andrew Buncombe

child, Caroline, was shaken to death by Sullivan - understood the judge's decision was not clear. The couple, who have declined to comment throughout the proceedings, again left the court without speaking.

Mr and Mrs Jongen gianced briefly at Sullivan as they walked out of the courtroom. But later Detective Chief

Inspector Phil Wheeler, head of a Metropolitan Police child protection unit and second-incommand of the investigation, said he had spent some moments with the couple after the sentencing. "I will never forget Mr Jongen saying they did not want to ruin Louise Sullivan's life," he said. "But they were very, very upset."

Sullivan had previously pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter, having admitted shaking Caroline to death in April 1998 while working as a nanny for the Jongen's at their north London home.

She believed the baby had suffered a fit while feeding and used the outdated "shake and shout" method she had been taught in Australia to try to revive the child. The court accepted that her actions, in between five to ten seconds were in no way the result of anger or aggression.

However, it emerged that Sullivan, whose parents split up

at the lower end of the low/ with new situations.

sic psychologist who interviewed her that if she was to

able for the career you chose and the work yon were

risk, which by your action, you exposed her to."

Explaining his decision to allow her to return to Sydney he said he was satisfied that Sullivan urgently needed treatment for her fragile mental state. Previously the court was told that Sullivan was at high which she shook the child for risk of suffering a nervous

when she was eight years old, has suffered since birth from a thyroid deficiency. This has given her an 1Q

average band and crucially left her inflexible in dealing At one point she told a foren-

have a baby she "would need different training".

Mr Justice Mitchell told Sullivan she was "wholly unsuit-

employed to do. "Someone of your age, with even only a measure of the training that you received, should and ordinarily would have known better than to expose the baby to the terrible



Louise Sullivan leaving the Old Bailey yesterday after being given a suspended sentence for killing Caroline Jongen

breakdown and that if she was sent to prison she would be very vulnerable to self harm.

the judge had finished sentencing and lent from the dock

ter. Before she left court she was seen speaking to someone Sullivan smiled in relief after on a mobile phone but she declined to speak to reporters. Her solicitor, Karen Todner,

do her best for a "child which

she adored. enormous distress to all con-

said vesterday that Sullivan's cerned Louise Sullivan bitterly intentions had always been to regrets that her actions led to Caroline's death," she said. "She is very distraught. She is "This tragedy has caused very relieved. It has been very,

She said Sullivan would be returning to Australia by the weekend. The family had not yet bought airline tickets and Sullivan had yet to have her passport returned by the police.

# Parents of Lawrence murder suspects hit back

THE PARENTS of the five white BY KATHY MARKS men suspected of murdering the black teenager Stephen Lawrence spoke out for the first time yesterday, attacking the "crucifixion by media" of

hy an investigation into the the programme, The Lawmen's backgrounds by the re- rence Five, which is to be gional ITV company, London broadcast on Friday. News Network (LNN).

The men's relatives said in a letter issued through their sopletely innocent of any violent offence". The letter was sent to The outburst was provoked LNN yesterday in advance of

The five - Gary Dobson,

Luke Knight, David Norris, Jamie Acourt and his brother, Neil - were charged with murdering Mr Lawrence, 18, who was stabbed to death at a bus stop in south-east London in 1993. None was convicted.

The men were named in tip-offs to police by 26 different local sources in the 48 hours after the murder.

five appeared at the public inlast summer, they responded to ouestions from lawyers with monosyllabic answers.

The letter, from the parents ask that they look at this case of Dobson and Knight and the with an open mind." mothers of Norris and the Norris and the Acourt broth- Acourts, said: "We, the par-

ers were already suspected of ents of these innocent young involvement in other violent men, and children at the time, attacks in the area. When the are sick of them being victimised for a political cause and quiry into the teenager's death crucified and tried by the media. Most people have prejudged this case because of the adverse publicity; we would

to hug her mother and barris-

veillance camera planted in Dobson's flat. It shows the suspects brandishing knives and exchanging sadistic, racist abuse.

The letter said that the video was "a product of what happened to our sons". The parents told LNN:

"They are hitting back at 18 The LNN programme will in- are hitting back at society for our sons. As you are putting so clude footage from a police sur- condemning them.

"We would not justify your our letter can be brought to the unfounded allegations by anpublic's attention." swering them all individually, Norris' father, Clifford, a

but would like to stress our sons south London criminal alleged are completely innocent of any to have links with local police violent offence, including the officers, is serving a sevenmurder of Stephen Lawrence. year jail sentence for drugs and "This case has turned into a firearms offences. gravy train, with everyone reap-

Sir William Mapherson of quiry into the case is due to be many views forward, we hope published later this month.

# British couple freed from Yemen kidnap ordeal

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

TWO BRITISH aid workers kidnapped in Yemen two weeks ago were released yesterday after tribesmen claimed to have been paid £50,000 to free them. Eddie and Mary Rosser

were freed with a Dutch family of four after prolonged negotiations. The original motive for their kidnapping was a demand by tribesmen that two men arrested for murder in the capital Sanaa be released. It was not clear yesterday

whether the detainees had been released, but tribal leaders said the kidnappers were paid in cash and given four fourwheel-drive vehicles by the Yemeni government as an inducement to free the captives.

Negotiations were previously stalled because the government would not free the alleged murderers who killed a shopkeeper in Sanaa, unless the family of the victim agreed. The authorities in Yemen are under intense pressure to see all kidnap victims free, because the international publicity surrounding hostage-taking is seriously damaging tourism

and foreign investment Mr Rosser, 61, and his wife, aged 64, from Lechlade, Gloucestershire, are both devout Baptists and are involved in a hospital project run by the



Eddie and Mary Rosser: 'In great spirits and very well'

Worldwide Service, a charity, in the northern city of Sadah. They were kidnapped on 17 January by members of the Bakhil tribe while travelling on the road to Sanaa with Hans and Berta Koolspri, also aid

workers, and their two children. On being released the British and Dutch families were driven to Sanaa for breakfast at the house of Sheikh Naji bin Abdel-Aziz al-Shayef, the Bakhil leader Mr and Mrs Rosser later went to the residence of the British ambassador.

Stephen Mason, Rossers' son-in-law, said his wife, Penny, received a call from her parents after they were freed. They are in great spirits and very well," he said.

John Watkins, a family friend added: "From all reports they have been extremely well looked after. We have no idea if there have been any deals or what negotiations might have been going on, but to be honest we do not really care."

Tribal kidnappings have become common in Yemen over

the past seven years, with more than 100 foreigners being taken hostage, but all were ultimately released unharmed. The first time that kidnap victims were killed was when Islamic militants seized 16 tourists on 28 December last year and killed four of them, including three Britons, as the army closed in.

Kidnappers usually demand social services such as clinics, roads and a better water supply, or the release of prisoners.

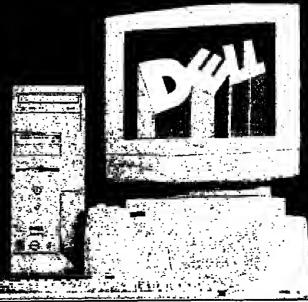
Government officials say the kidnaps are almost always settled by cash payments and the provision of four-wheel-drive cars. They also believe that some of the kidnappings have the covert objective of isolating Yemen diplomatically and weakening the central govern-

The Foreign Office and the Dutch Foreign Ministry both said they were unaware of any of the kidnappers' demands being met by the government. A Dutch spokesman said: "The negotiations with the abductors have been conducted by the Yemen authorities. We don't feel authorised to make any disclosure about them."

An oil worker from Northern Ireland was kidnapped by tribesmen on Monday but released after a few hours. A German woman and her child are the only foreigners still being held.

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# ITV staff vote for strike

ONE-THIRD of the ITV network BY PAUL MCCANN faces disruption after a vote in favour of strike action by broadcasting unions yesterday. Granada, LWT and York-

shire Tyne-Tees programmes could be pulled off air from 22 February unless the Granada Media Group, which owns all three broadcasters, enters talks about pay, a union spokesman said yesterday. The first programmes to be

hit will be live regional news

Media Editor

each of the local franchise areas. ITV network programmes such as Coronation Street, Blind Date and Heartbeat will be affected only if the dispute is prolonged. Members of Bectu, the Na-

have awarded themselves pay increases worth an extra 14 per cent, while the company has increased profits by 21 per cent to £255m. The unions have asked the arbitration service Acas to intervene and the service has requested that Granada enter talks. The broadcaster

that directors of the company

has yet to respond. tional Union of Journalists and A Granada statement yesthe AEEU voted 75 per cent in terday said that only 10 per cent favour of strike action if Granaof its workforce had voted for da does not increase its 3.6 per and magazine programmes in cent pay offer. The unions claim strike action.



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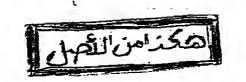


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# Frigatebird crash-lands at seaside

A SPECTACULAR tropical By BRIAN UNWIN seabird is being nursed back to health at a secret location after crash-landing in British waters. It is the first time one of the hirds has survived the journey from the Caribbean

The magnificent frigatebird, which has an 8ft wing-span. was picked up exhausted and close to death on a beach near Castletown on the Isle of Man by a wildlife enthusiast who has since been looking after it at her home.

Thousands of bird-watchers south-westerly gales during want to see the exotic casual-December," Mr Abraham said. ty, only the second to have been name and address are heing kept secret to avoid disturhance to her patient. Ted

Merseyside-based Birdline North West information service, said yesterday: "So far no more than two or three people have seen the bird, which has been confirmed as an adult female magnificent frigatebird."

The bird was picked up in an extremely weak condition on 22 December hut its arrival was kept secret until now. "It must have been blown into the Irish Sea by one of those severe

"Frigatebirds are among recorded in the UK (the other the few hirds able to ride out bird died), but the woman's hurricanes in flight but this one was probably in a poor state due to being in the air a long time - they never land on



An adult female magnificent frigatebird (fregata magnificens) similar to the one being nursed back to health on the Isle of Man

feeding in the storms." It is back to the West Indies, from now recovering on a diet of where it most likely originated.

they can see its return to the on another British Isles mainland where, as well as rewild but the danger is that it beach," he said. However, ne-ceiving treatment, it could be squid and arrangements are when it is fully fit, Mr Abraham expected to be made with an said. "A lot of people are hop-

airline to give it a free flight ing it will be released here so would end up coming to grief wildlife care centre on the go through a process of dehu-

manisation so it can live in the wild again. In the tropics, frigatebirds have become tame by people feeding them," Mr

# Fury over birth control' implant

A PROPOSAL that girls as BY JEREMY LAURANCE young as 10 could in the future Health Editor be implanted with long-acting bormonal contraceptives sparked a row yesterday over the best way to tackle Britain's high teenage birth-rate.

Professor John Guillebaud. medical director of the Margaret Pyke Ceotre in London and an expert adviser to the Family Planning Association, said a highly effective bormonal implant which has just received its European licence was 'ideal" for young girls who are more likely than older women to forget to take the Pill or use a condom.

But his proposal was attacked by anti-abortion and conservative family organisations, who accused him of recommending the "chemical castration". It also caused consternation within the family planning movement.

The row centres on a Dutchmade device called Implanon, a rod of hormones, 5 centimetres long, that is inserted under the skin of the arm and lasts for three years. It was granted a European licence last Decemher and is expected to be ratified by the Medicines Control Agency at the end of the month.

Professor Guillebaud, who set out his vision of the future of contraception at a conference in London 10 days ago, said: "In the future, and as a social policy, when you have an area with a huge rate of teenage pregnancies you could go into a school, obviously with the consent of the parents, and fit this device so that everybody to have a baby.

"It could be fitted into girls ooce they have had their periods but before they have had sex - for instance, at the time in this broader context."

he intel

Health Editor

when they were having their

Professor Guillebaud said yesterday that his remarks had been misinterpreted to suggest he was recommending girls of 10 be fitted with contraceptive devices today when he was speculating about what might happen a decade or more hence.

"As of now, Implanon might be used for young girls who are already sexually active and who have difficulty remembering to take the contraceptive pill," he said. "But I was looking ahead to some future society where, given the technology to switch fertility on and off without side-effects, we might choose to put the whole of society on it. I don't think society is ready for it yet and the implication that girls could now go and have sex at age 10 was not my message at all."

Valerie Riches, of Family Youth Concern, said yesterday: "I think the whole idea is repugnant. It will give youngsters the go-ahead to engage in sexual intercourse at an even earlier age." The family campaigner Victoria Gillick said: "This amounts to the spaying of young children. It is outrageous. It is the wholesale sterilisation of young children. It is chemical castration. It is repugnant."

Even the Family Planning Association distanced itself from the idea. Ann Weyman, its chief executive, said: "We believe girls should be encouraged would start out not being able to have the self-confidence to take control of their lives and make responsible decisions about relationships. Contraception has to be viewed with-

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### IN BRIEF

### Prisoner takes teacher hostage

BRITAIN'S MOST disruptive prisoner Charles Bronson returned to his bad old ways yesterday as be took a prison teacher bostage. Bronson claimed to have become a reformed character after making contact with his 26-yearold son, who he had not seen since be was three.

### Court told of vote rigging 'loan'

GLASGOW GOVAN Labour MP Mohammed Sarwar signailed an offer of £5,000 in exchange for a false statement over vote rigging, the High Court in Edinburgh was told by his election rival Badar Islam yesterday. Mr Sarwar denies electoral fraud. The case continues.

### 650,000 face £100 tax form fine

MORE THAN half a million people are to be fined by the Inland Revenue after falling to file their tax returns by Sundays' deadline. Nine million tax forms were due but 650,000 people missed the deadline and will face an automatic fine of up to £100.

### 'Flat-cap robber' suspect held

DETECTIVES HUNTING Britain's most wanted bank raider -dubbed the "flat cap robber" - have arrested a man, 53, who was being held in Staffordshire, police said yesterday. The arrest follows a nationwide publicity campaign by police who produced a life-size cardboard cut-out of the culprit to gain information about his identity.

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# Blair's precedent for governance by daytime television

lished a precedent for governance by daytime television, with his appearance on This Morning we should presumably brace ourselves for an extension of the principle.

The Royal Commission's report on reform of the House of Lords could be presented as a Style Challenge makeover show, that fusty and under-used Upper Chamber transformed, with the help of glass bricks and several tons of MDF, into a bright and airy family room.

In Can't Fight, Won't Fight Robin Cook could show Mr Milosevic and the KLA how to put together a palat-

able peace settlement in 30 minutes, whipping up the studio audience with his catchphrase: "The planes stand ready on 48-hour notice".

And there are obvious television models for the adversarial business of the House itself, daytime programmes in which a strong female authority-figure moderates between surly antagonists, refereeing their emotional fire fights and deciding when to take interventions from the floor Give Madam Speaker a radio-mike, allow her to roam dynamically between the front benches and we could have Betty as a rival to Vanessa and Trisha.

It's only fair to say, though, that if yesterday had been the pilot the series would never have been made The producers couldn't be blamed for the casting. On one side there was Frank Dobson, a no-nonsense type who's happy to mix it up when the occasion demands. On the other there was Ann Widdecombe, a feisty dame who usually hurls herself at Labour skittles like a bowling bowl that has discovered a passionate sense of vocation. On paper the chemistry was perfect if we were very lucky we might even get a fist fight - but for some rea-



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

Ms Widdecombe, for one, could hardly he coaxed out of a mutter-

issue of National Health Service rationing, she sat there, steadlastly refusing to go over the top. Perhaps she had simply been demoralised by the broadly unassailable front the Health Secretary presented, given that he'd just announced large pay rises for nurses. Ms Widdecombe couldn't attack that and nor could she get a fingernall underneath the statement that followed, that NHS Direct, a telephone medical advice service designed to stop people calling an ambulance when they stub

ing passivity – even when Virginia
Bottomley opened up the most promising Opposition salient, the tenant, Alan Duncan. He hoped that he would not shock the Health Secretary but it was his happy task "to give NHS Direct a general welcome". Mr Dobson did appear a little out of his depth - conceding that "it would be churlish not to welcome the general welcome", but he struggled back to the dry land of ro-

bust contempt.

The highlight of the afternoon was a more old-fashioned style of programming - one of those straight-to-camera monologues in

which a distinguished old gentle-man holds forth extempore without the benefit of autocue. Sir Edward Heath, speaking in the second day of the debate on Lords reform, held the House with a speech that wasn't fluent exactly - some pauses were rhetorical, some merely marked the anxious gap during which his argument sought its bearings. Across the floor Tony Benn nodded with approval as Sir Edward conceded that the days of heredity privilege were passed.

As daytime television it was low on thrills, but as a parliamentary occasion I'd happily watch a repeat.

# Mandelson's lone stand on Lords

PETER MANDELSON used his LORDS REFORM comeback in the Commons last night to claim he was "the lonely voice" who proposed to set up a Royal Commission on House of Lords reform.

The former Trade and Industry Secretary, who resigned m December, said a joint parliamentary committee on its own, as proposed in the Labour Party manifesto, would have been at the "risk" of falling victim to "rather incestuous and introspective proceedings.

"I was the lonely voice on the original cabinet committee urging the creation of a Royal Commission," he said. "I did so because I was concerned that to set up a joint parliamentary committee would result in rather incestuous and introspective proceedings."

He added that the joint parliamentary committee's work before the recommendations of the Royal Commission were published would have become a "playground for the Opposition".

Later, government sources expressed surprise at Mr Mandelson's remarks, saying usually proceedings in cabinet committees remained private. a link between national Parlia-

Mr Mandelson defended the Government's decision not to reform the upper chamber all at once, saying it would have become "bogged down by the insistence that everything is clarified before we make any

He stressed a future upper chamber should not demote the Commons because this would lead to gridlock and constitutional stalemate, "damaging democracy rather than enhancing democracy".

BY SARAH SCHAEFER AND PAUL WAUGH

Its functions should contribute to provide the "much needed give" to keep Britain together at the time of devolution by reflecting the new regional structures. Similarly it should address the remoteness and lack of legitimacy of the political institutions of the Euro-

pean Union. "If we could create

Peter Mandelson: Wanted Royal Commission

ments and the European Parliament, this would help to overcome that s has opened up."

Earlier Sir Edward Heath broke ranks with William Hague by calling for the outright abolition of the hereditary principle and called for the hereditary Upper Chamber to be replaced by a fully elected

House of Lords. "I want to see the abolition of the hereditary principle. It is over We should move on to a democratic arrangement. It must be elected today. This will cause some astonishment - I hear a

great gasp of breath," he said. "I believe the time has come for the end of hereditary peers in politics. I believe that with absolute conviction. We have now moved to the stage, about to go into the next millennium, and it is time it came to an end."

John Major, the former orime minister, seized upon Mr Mandelson's remarks, "Not since Satan denounced sin have I heard such a recantation as those remarks about devo-

lution," he said. Mr Major, MP for Huntingdon, said that the Bill was a "vindictive" measure that proved the Government was determined to remove all dissent against it. Mr Major agreed that the hereditary principle was "dead" but warned that the Royal Commission needed more time to come up with a sensible plan for a reformed Upper House.

The Government's "mean, inadequate little Bill" was part of a wider contempt for Parliament and its traditions that the Government also showed for its own backbenchers.

This House should remember that it is the master of government and not its servant. The real question that lies behind all the constitutional

change," he said. "Liberty needs protection from democracy and this government are tearing apart, piece by piece, Act by Act, the most sophisticated constitution of them all with little understanding of what they are



# Row over 'dirty tricks' tactics

THE BATTLE for the Labour WALES leadership of the Welsh Assembly entered its bitterest phase yet, with the rival cam-

"dirty tricks" tactics. As Tony Blair paid his third visit to Wales in three months, supporters of Rhodri Morgan, the rebel backbencher, and Alun Michael, Secretary of State for Wales, criticised each

other yesterday.

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

palgns accusing each other of in the principality on the same day as ballot papers were mailed. But as Mr Morgan's supporters submitted a formal complaint about the leaflet, the Michael camp produced their own evidence of "sleaze" by their rivals.

The Welsh Secretary's cam-The Morgan camp claimed paign team revealed that the that its opponents had pressure group Charter 88 was furious that Mr Morgan's breached party rules by sending out an extra leaflet to all staff suggested it was prepared 25,000 Labour Party members to fund bailots of Labour

ruary. Charter 88 has asked Mr vestigation into why his team campaign, said that the revewrote to the Labour Students organisation in Wales, saying: "We can make money available to fund a ballot, from a source

coming via Charter 88." Greg Power, the pressure group's acting director, told Mr Morgan: "Charter 88 is a politically independent organisation and we take the view that these matters are for the political parties themselves ... We are very concerned about

affiliated egganisations ahead of the way in which Charter 88's the leadership vote on 20 Febname has been used."

Peter Hain, the Welsh Office Morgan to launch an urgent in-minister who runs the Michael lations suggested "unethical behaviour". He added: "What could have been a constructive contest about policy and the direction of Wales has been confounded by Rhodri Morgan's unscrupulous tactics. The Charter 88 ruse has now been exposed as a complete lie."

Yesterday, both sides insisted they were optimistic about victory, claiming that telephone canvassing had shown leads for

their candidate. Although Mr Morgan has a head start, the Secretary of State's allies claim he has the momentum to win after securing the backing of the AEEU engineering union A key test will be the vote of Unison, the public service union, which has 5 per cent of the total votes in the electoral

The electoral college gives a third of the votes to trade unions and other affiliated organisations, a third to constituency parties, and a third to Welsh Labour MPs, MEPs and candidates for the assembly.

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# Irvine accused of cronyism on government legal work

THE FORMER chambers of LEGAL AFFAIRS Tony Blair's professional men-tor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, have work than any other in London since Labour came to power, it was revealed last night.

Tories accused Lord Irvine now the Lord Chancellor - of cronyism" after it emerged that the account had been swollen by the appointment of one of his former colleagues to

a government post.

Philip Sales, a barrister in
Lord Irvine's former chambers, was appointed first Treasury counsel at the end of 1997. That means he is a preferred barrister who regularly represents government departments in court cases, but is paid private rates on a case-by-case basis.

London mayor

THE NEW Greater London

Assembly should be given

the power to sack the mayor of London, Simon Hughes,

London spokesman argued.

Greater London Authority Bill was tabled in committee

**Electronic trade** 

stifle electronic commerce

companies to give it copies of electronic security "keys".
representatives of the

electronics industry and

Internet services providers

warned in evidence to the

Industry Select Committee.

Commons Trade and

THE GOVERNMENT will

it enacts a Bill to force

the Liberal Democrats'

An amendment to the

BY FRAN ABRAMS

Westminster Correspondent

Although Mr Sales was appointed by the Attorney General, John Morris, Lord Irvine was consulted about it.

Since May 1997, the groundfloor chambers at 11 King's Bench Walk has received £36,687 for services to the Lord Chancellor's department. Of 24 London chambers listed in a written answer to David Ruffley the Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds, only five received more than £10,000. Three received between £5,000 and £10,000, and 14 received between £1,000 and £5,000. One chambers received just £164 and another £840. Last night,

THE HOUSE

**GP** fundholding

Ann Widdecombe, the Tory

accused the Government of effectively abolishing" GP fundholding arrangements before legislation to achieve

this had cleared Parliament

after it emerged that 481

primary care groups were

due to start work on I April



answer, "it looks like jobs for the boys and cronyism".

NHS iists cut

NHS waiting lists in England have fallen by

April last year, John

Denham, the Health

lists to below the 1.16

from the previous

more than 150,000 since

Minister of State, said. "By

next April, we will deliver a record reduction in waiting

million patients inherited

Government," he said in a

Commons written reply.

Drugs success

RANDOM DRUG tests on

reduction in narcotics abuse

announced. The number of

positive tests fell from 24.4

prisoners have led to a

in 1998, the Home Office

minister Lord Hylton

A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor's department said it was to be expected that the

Mr Ruffley said that from the

Treasury counsel's chamber would receive more work than any other. "He advises all government departments on matters for which counsel's opinions are sought," he said. A spokeswoman for the At-

torney General's department which made the appointment, said Mr Morris had consulted the Lord Chancellor and the Treasury solicitors' department, which does the Government's legal work, before aking a decision.

Since then, a working party headed by Lord Falconer of Thoroton, another old friend of Tony Blair who was ennobled after the election and is now a Cabinet Office minister, had recommended that in future the post should be advertised.

QUESTIONS

**ANSWERS** 

Today's agenda

Commons 9.30am: Genetically modified food ■ London Fire Service At 2.30pm International Development questions. At 3pm questions to the Prime Minister. Lords 2.30pm ■ Debate on the National

AND

per cent in 24.4 per cent in 1996-97 to 18.8 per cent in the first seven months of 1998-99.

Health Service ■ Debate on family farms

### **Minister** admits he misled MPs over tax return

TRADE AND INDUSTRY BY FRAN ABRAMS

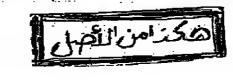
MICHAEL WILLS, the new Small Business minister, is facing claims that he misled the Commons when he told MPs his own firms had always filed their tax returns on time.

John Redwood, the Conservatives' trade and industry spokesman, has demanded an apology from Mr Wills, who was appointed as an unpaid minister after the resignation of Peter Mandelson.

Mr Wills' television production firm, Juniper Communications, filed late returns twice and late accounts three times, according to Mr Redwood's research at Companies House.

The Tory spokesman raised the issue in the House 10 days ago. Mr Wills had said: "Every company with which I have been associated has filed its returns in compliance with the deadlines set by Companies House." Mr Redwood proceeded to list the occasions on which Juniper had not fulfilled legal requirements.

Yesterday, in a letter to the Conservative spokesman, Mr Wills said he believed the statement he made to the House was correct. He had been referring not to Juniper but to another firm he used to own. In a letter to Mr Wills last night, Mr Redwood called for a retraction of his Commons





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Ministe admits misled MPs on

Charles and the stand

**LESTIONS** 



A daffodil picker at work in Cornwall as the spring blooms are given early encouragement by the past week's unseasonably warm weather

# Winter wobble sends snow to Algiers and gives Britain early taste of spring

**Environment Correspondent** 

THE HOLIDAY island of Majorca has been chilled by air from the frozen wastes of Finland in the past week as Europe's climate has turned upside down.

Two opposing weather systems have acted as a giant transcontinental pump, blowing an icy blast from the Arctic down to the Mediterranean while pushing up warm air to the British Isles and the eastern Atlantic. Southern Italy, Greece,

Spain and even Algeria have suffered snowstorms, Britain has been mild and Iceland has been basking in unseasonable warmth. Finland began it all last week,

when the country's lowest temperature for a century - minus 51.3C - was recorded at the Lapland town of Kittila, 100 miles inside the Arctic Circle.

It was so cold, according to a UK Met Office correspondent. that car tyres with low pressure in them were freezing in a square shape, so that vehicles still able to run were bumping

along "like rabbits". Kittila in midwinter normally



A child enjoys a surprise snowfall on the Spanish island

about minus 35C. The cold had grown so intense because north winds bringing air from the Arctic were succeeded by clear skies and stillness, which further froze the air column. Much of Europe felt the Kit-

experiences temperatures of tila chill when low pressure systems over the Balkans drew the freezing air down over Germany, Poland and central Europe into northern Italy and into places normally noted for winter sunshine. Temperatures started tumbling.

LASER HAIR

ed a low of minus 2.8C, half a degree off its record. Catania in Sicily recorded minus 2.4C (normal temperature about 8C for the time of year) and Bari in Italy's South-east was down to 1.4C (it should be 10C). In Spain, Madrid recorded

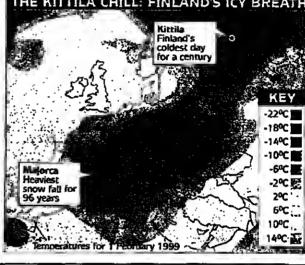
minus 8C, against a normal temperature of about 2C fits record low is minus 10C), and Majorca suffered its beaviest snowfall for 96 years. The city of Algiers had its

first snow for two decades and blizzards closed Salonika airport in Greece.

It was a different story Europe's western edge, where two areas of high pressure, east and west of Britain, have pulled up warm air from the direction of the Canaries.

North-west Europe has been much milder and the town of Akureyri in northern Iceland has been enjoying temperatures of 9.5C - about eight degrees higher than normal.

However, don't put away the winter woollies just yet. Normal service is expected to resume this weekend with the Mediterranean warming up and colder weather returning to Britain.



# Call for UDI on the Isle of Man

THE FLAG of independence By Louise Jury was brandished vesterday in the home of the Tourist Trophy races and tail-less cats.

More than 200 years after the British government bought the Isle of Man for £70,000, a move was afoot to sever the ties. David Cannan, a former

Manx treasury minister, tabled a motion calling for contingency plans to be drawn up for independence if Britain moved towards European economic and monetary union (EMU).

Fearing that tax harmonisation proposals would jeopardise the thriving financial industry in the cosy tax haven, Mr Cannan also called for draft arrangements for the Manx pound to be linked to the United States dollar. "If the UK joins the EMU then the Isle of Man has three years to protect its future. The inancial sector has to be protected at all costs," he said.

But Honourable Donald Gelling, the island's chief minister, urged caution. Such action would be precipitate, he said. Evolution, not revolution, was required. "An ill-advised and illinformed debate in public is extremely dangerous, because businesses thrive on consistency and stability," he said.

Under a European protocol. the Isle of Man has access to Euvoean markets for its goods but is not a member of the European Union and receives no grant from it. If Britain adopted the euro, the island would follow suit for practical reasons, not because it had to, Mr Gelling said.

The resolution was political. he suggested. In an island where nearly all the members stand as independents, the division is tricky to explain. But Mr Cannan has been portrayed nancial sector accounts for

wood, a right-wing Eurosceptic. Mr Gelling sees himself more as a middle-ground conservative.

The problem with any move to independence was that the Manx people could lose more than they gained. They have no university of their own and for some health matters, they have to travel to nearby Liverpool. If Britain used the euro and the Isle of Man retained the Manx pound, businesses could end up paying charges every time they wanted to pay a bill to a United Kingdom supplier.

Mr Gelling said: "I maintair we should be moving towards greater autonomy: But ... we would have to be very very sure that it was right for the Isle of Man to become independent before we could sever our links."

He successfully proposed an amendment. The government, which has two elected chambers, the Legislative Council and the House of Keys. has already arranged a seminar this month to inform members on the issues. Mr Gelling suggested everyone should learn more and report back by June.

Yet independent tax experts suggested Mr Cannan might have a point. John Whiting, tax partner at Pricewaterhouse Coopers, said the Germans had stepped up the pressure towards tax barmonisation and the next step would be pressure on the "semi-detached" members such as the Isle of Man to come "into the link", he said.

But the island's lower taxes were part of its selling point and Mr Whiting could see why they might want to keep the freedom as a type of Manx John Red- about one-third of its business.

"No arrangement

tees."



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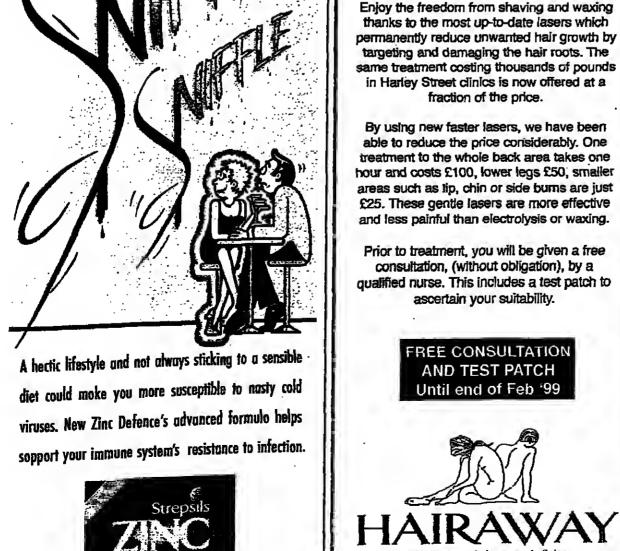
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Life Sank's sufficient are used. Standard valuation fee will be refunded on completion of the mortgage. Telephone calls will be monitored and accorded to being us impr



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# Museum unveils a child-free gallery

CHILDREN ARE to be banned By DAVID LISTER from one of the galleries of a £97m arts, science and nature centre, funded by the National Lottery, because they are too

The move follows private research which showed that the thing adults hated most about visiting science museums was the noise from children. It puts n the At-Bristol centre - one of Britain's biggest projects for the millennium-sharply out of tune

( with government thinking.

N The head of At-Bristol, p which opens next year, is Gillian Thomas a former astl sistant director at the Science E Museum in London. She said n she was impressed by the research findings and decreed a that among the many galleries there should be a quiet room where only adults could study multi-media exhibits about the 1 human brain.

Children and families will be g strongly catered for in other parts of the centre when it r opens in March 2000. But if the experiment of having one quiet gallery" is a success, it is sure to be considered by other museums and galleries.

Ms Thomas will also break the mould of current arts thinkr ing in other ways. The Bristol project will not be marketed, as n is usual, at family audiences. : Older people and single people will be catered for to reflect curof rent demographic trends, par-I ticularly in the West Country. The centre will be liberally sprinkled with seats and - unlike most traditional museums it - visitors will be encouraged to n sit in the display rooms.

x said, will be out to attract the nature building - called Wild-"silver surfers", the jargon for screen - will be a new square older people becoming attracted to the Internet and computer technology. A fur-tures, aimed at becoming a ther initiative to mark it out as city centre meeting place.

Arts News Editor

nium will be a cyber-café with sofas to attract female Internet users. Research found that women were deterred from using the Net because they disliked the business-style, bar-stool atmosphere of many Internet cafés, and wanted a room where they could be comfortable.

Ms Thomas said yesterday: "We will be doing a number of things differently. The trend now is towards a lot more single adults on their own and if you just focus on families with 2.4 children you're missing what's happening. There's a really good market for coach tours for nsioners and we have worked hard on the seating. A lot of places don't like you sitting down. But I think you can't focus on something when you're physically uncomfortable."

She added: "We asked adults what they most disliked about science centres. And they said 'noise and children'. So we have created this space where children are banned."

Above all, she emphasised At-Bristol would encourage visitors to become involved rather than just look at objects. There would be a large number of hands-on exhibits, multi-media displays and scientific experiments in which visitors could participate.

The nature building will have a mixture of live animals and a new Imax cinema showing wildlife films.

Between the science build-The new centre, Ms Thomas ing - called Explore - and the as large as Parliament Square in London, with art and sculp-



The area in front of the Tower that is to be landscaped, with the clutter and ticket booths (centre left) swept away

### Lottery grant of £6m for Tower

By Kate Watson-Smyth

THE TOWER of London, home of the Crown Jewels and one of the country's busiest tourist attractions, is to receive a lottery

grant of nearly 16m.
The money will be used to improve the area around the site. Visitors currently have to walk through an ugly concrete underpass or cross a busy road lined with kiosks to reach the world heritage site.

But the £14.7m scheme-for which the rest of the funding is already in place - will involve laying paths to improve access for disabled people and pedestri-anising the area to the front of the Tower to restore the views from Tower Hill towards the Thames. It will also include a new education centre and improved ticket arrangements.

The Heritage Lottery Fund announced yesterday that it had awarded an initial grant of £405,000 to pay for development of the plans and £5.5m when they are complete.

Bob Hill, the project director for the Tower of London, said he was "really pleased" about the grant. "For some years people have been bothered about the siting of the tower and the amount of detritus that is around the entrance to it, which is not appropriate for a world heritage site... the whole scheme will make a big difference to the way the Tower is perceived."

The work is scheduled to finish in 2002.

### New controller defends Radio 3's diversity RADIO 3 launched a counter-of- By DAVID LISTER

fensive yesterday to accusa-tions that the BBC is dumbing down as it announced an increase in drama and live classical music

Roger Wright, the new con-troller of Radio 3, spelt out his vision for the network, describing it as "the only place you can find such a diversity of top-quality cultural and music programmes".

With Radio 4 constantly ac-

cused of downgrading its drama output, Mr Wright announced a Radio 3 season of new plays by writers including Howard Barker and Wole Soyinka as well as a season of classics starring artists including Juliet Stevenson and Cheryl Campbell

He confirmed that the percentage of speech and drama on the station was increasing. two new strands. A new music

And he announced an increase in the amount of live music, which already accounts for 50 per cent of Radio 3's output. Weekly live opera from the Met in New York will continue. For the first time Radio Three will broadcast Womad, the World Music and Dance Festival from

Reading. Mr Wright detailed changes to the morning schedule from August this year, which include performance will run each weekday morning from 11.30am to 1pm, replacing Artist of the Week and Sound Stories. And a new five-minute speech programme scheduled for 10am each weekday morning will have artists such as the povelist AS Byatt talking about

their current projects. There will also be a classical music request programme on Saturday afternoons.

lenging Radio 4 as the BBC's cultural station, Mr Wright said: "Radio 3 is classical music and culture together. "Live music, long-form

drama, crafted speech programming and new work lie actress Fiona Shaw and the at the beart of Radio 3's unique service ... the network remains the only place you can find such a diversity of top-quality cultural and music programmes."



# runs cinci funs.

(Suffect appropriate really)

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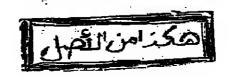
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# grant of £6m for Tower

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THE INDEPENDENT Wednesday 3 February 1999

HOME NEWS/11

# Nasa takes off in search of stardust

BY STEVE CONNOR Science Editor

AN AMBITIOUS attempt to capture the floating stardust of interstellar space will begin this weekend with the launch of the first spacecraft to bring back extraterrestrial material to Earth since the Apollo rockets of the early Seventies.

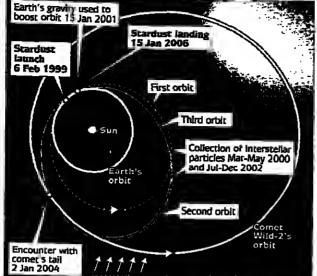
The Stardust spacecraft named after the lyrics of "Woodstock" sung by Joni Mitchell – will chase a distant comet and capture the minute particles of material in its tail. Ît will also collect interstellar dust from deep space.

Scientists hope to study the interstellar particles and cometary dust when they are returned to Earth in seven years' time to learn more about the evolution of the solar system and how life began on Earth.

Stardust, an international mission led by the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), is scheduled for lift-off on Saturday and will make contact with comet Wild-2 (pronounced "Vilt-2") in January 2004.

The spacecraft will fly by the comet at a speed of 14,000mph and use an instrument shaped like a tennis racket and coated in aerogel, a material known as "frozen smoke" because it is the lightest man-made solid, to capture the delicate dust.

Tony McDonnell, professor of space physics at the University of Kent at Canterbury, which has helped to build a set



"People have long suspect-

"But we do know that

comets are the most carbon-

rich materials in the solar sys-

tem, and we know they're full

of organic compounds and they

fall on the Earth all the time."

are found on Earth have suf-

fered too much damage during

their journey through the at-

mosphere to be of much use in

The cometary particles that

of microphones to listen to the have long been thought to have sound of the stardust being come from further out in the caught, said the dust has been solar system, out further away preserved in a pristine state from the Sun, and these would since the solar system was cre-ated about 4.7 billion years ago. be materials from asteroids and comets," he said. "We've come from a similar cloud of interstellar dust and ed that comets play a role in the gas that condensed to form origin of life. No ooe really the planets. The cometary maknows this because no one terial may have brought the lifeknows how life began.

sustaining elements - the carbon and water-based chemicals - to Earth," he said. Donald Brownlee, professor of astronomy at the University

of Washington in Seattle, who devised the idea for the mission in 1980, said bringing stardust back to Earth for analysis could help to explain the evolution of life. "The building blocks of life

learning about the state of mat-ter at the beginning of time. Comet Wild-2 is perfect to search for the best-preserved material because it has rarely passed near to the Sun and so has oot suffered the damaging effects of solar radiation, Professor Brownlee said. "There haso't been time enough for the Sun's heat to de-

stroy the characteristics of particles that have been preserved in the cryogenic deep freeze of space for billions of years."

The stardust spacecraft will be the first mission since Apollo 17 in 1972 to return extraterrestrial samples from space, and the first to bring back ma-terial from beyond the Moon.

The stellar dust caught up in a comet's tail is the only known physical clue to the events that led to the formation of planets and the evolution of life, Professor Brownlee said. "You can at least look at what the starting materials were. So that's what Stardust is going to do."

Professor Brownlee said the lyrics of "Woodstock" - "We are stardust, we are golden, we are 2 billion-year-old carbon" are apt for the mission.

"Many of the carbon atoms in our bodies were in comets early in the history of the solar system. So one of the bylines of the Stardust mission is that we are stardust. Our bodies are actually made of stardust," he said.

However, despite the affiliation to "Woodstock", Nasa plans to play Hoagy Carmichael's



"Stardust" for the countdown. A Nasa scientist shows how the Woodstock spacecraft will catch spacedust from the tail of a comet

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# Life term for killing lover's wife

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

AN AMATEUR actress who killed her lover's wife in a jealous rage was yesterday sentenced to life in prison.

Jenny Cupit, 25, from Warrington, sobbed uncontrollably in the dock at Chester Crown Court as the judge told her she was a serial liar who would be

behind bars for a long time.
Cupit had denied murdering
Kathryn Linaker, 33, but admitted manslaughter on the
grounds of diminished responsibility. Yesterday, she changed her plea at the eleventh hour and admitted murdering the primary school teacher and mother of two on 17 April last year. Mr Justice Sachs said:

What you did on that day was an absolute outrage. You killed that woman out of lust for her husband and jealousy for her. He said he had listened to

the mitigation and, "it's not that great... Nobody hearing the evidence in this case can fail to feel anything but revulsion." During the five-day trial, the court heard how Mrs Linaker

was bludgeoned and stabbed to death in front of her fourmonth-old daughter. She did not know her husband, Chris, was having an affair, but had warned him, a week before her death, that Cupit was interested in him and could be a threat to their marriage. Cupit, a mother of two, and

her husband, Nick, met the Linakers at the Warringtonbased Centenary Operatic and Dramatic Society. The affair between Cupit and Mr Linaker, 35, began in January 1997. They met at least once a week for sex and talked regularly by phone. Their affair continued for 16 months.

Mr Linaker wrote one letter



Cupit: 'Serial liar who killed out of jealousy

elope to Canada, saying: "We have shared almost every sexual experience together and I can't imagine life without you."

But Cupit knew that Mr Linaker still loved his wife. She visited the Linaker's home armed with a small knife and plunged the knife into Mrs Linaker's back with such force that the blade snapped. She then stabbed her in the stomach with a larger knife taken from a kitchen drawer.

First she told police of a "mystery skinhead" who forced his way into the house and attacked Mrs Linaker. When she was arrested, she gave a dramatic account of how she had killed Mrs Linaker after the affair was discovered, and claimed that Mrs Linaker had attacked her because she was jealous of her popularity. Her

claims were never believed. Mr Linaker left the court with his head down yesterday and refused to comment. During the trial he sat grim faced at the back of the public gallery as Adrian Fulford, QC, defending, said Cupit was mentally unstable and Mr Linaker had to take responsibility for what



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# Schroder says 'we moved too fast'



Chancellor Schröder showing his versatility before a Christmas audience in Bonn

CHANCELLOR GERHARD Schroder marked his first 100 days of power by admitting that his government had made mistakes. "We overlooked the fact that you don't have to implement all the election promises you made for the whole legis-lature in the first 100 days," the German leader said vesterday at the Davos world economic summit "When you move at the pace we did, human error is bound to creep in."

Few governments had promised so little, yet delivered so much entertainment as Germany's new administration. Gerhard Schröder had entered office pledging to do things not very differently from his predecessors, only better. As his period of grace expires today, the commentators, even those naturally inclined towards the left, feel let down. The word finding its way most frequently onto newsprint is "chaos".

Presaged by the resignation of a minister-in-waiting, Mr

#### 100 DAYS IN POWER

THE HIGHS immigration: Millions of foreign residents will be naturalised with reform of the racially based citizenship law of 1913. Due to be enacted

this summer.

The past: Fund to be established this year to compensate slave workers of the Nazi period. Compromise over design of Berlin's Holocaust Memorial ends a

decade of dithering. Nuclear power: Legislation to phase out nuclear power over several decades. First plants expected to close within the lifetime of the current parliament. Europe: Currently holding

lurching from one crisis to the next ever since. As they celebrate their first 100 days in office, most of the new team will readily admit that things can

The Greens have just had a "crash-course in government",

ernment has set a hecric pace for reform, it wants to settle finances, including its own rebate, by March.

AND LOWS Taxes: No sign of a plan to deal with the simple problem that German workers cost roo much. Jobs: Planned pact between employers and employees seems Utopian. Nothing concrete achieved at first

meeting. Diplomacy: Severa! ministers fail to understand that Bismarckian methods of conducting dialogue with neighbours no longer work.

leader, Rezzo Schlauch, Considering his party had never before been in power at the federal level. they had not done too badly; he

The Social Democrats, too. are pleading for extenuating circumstances. They had become rusty in their 16 years in the wilderness, and underestimated the difficulty of running a country, they say:

Even before the cabinet could be assembled, Mr Schröder had lost Jost Stoilmann, the independent-minded businessman who was to have occupied the chair at the Economic Ministry. Mr Stollmann had fallen victim to the machinations of Oskar Minister.

ioh creation while saving the planet. But Mr Lafontaine found himself having to dole out exemptions to smokestack industries, thus provoking the Greens. The could have been worse.

government is still haggling over the details.

When not adding and removing tax burdens, Mr Lafontaine was trying to "harmonise" taxes in the European Union, dictating interest rates to the banks, and constructing a new architecture to deter international financial speculators. None of his plans has come to anything, but his notoriety in the rest of Europe

Mr Lafontaine was eventually reined in. These days be is kept busy by the economic realities of a falling growth rate. unemployment again on the rise, and his chums in the unions staging nationwide strikes in support of a 6.5 per cent wage claim.

The chief mischief-makers of the moment are the Greens. particularly the Environment Minister, Jurgen Trittin, It is on nuclear policy that the gov-ernment has been most shambolic toing and froing on the ban on reprocessing and the closure of plants.

There is no final date for either, to Mr Schroder's great delight and to the Greens' evident pain. But the negotiations with the power industry have begun, at the end of which Germany will begin phasing out nuclear energy. In years to come, that will be seen by the left as a great achievement, and the rows between reds and greens along the way will appear to have been trifling.

Many of the policies the reds Lafontaine, now Finance and greens have launched together are promising. Despite Then came the "environ-mental tax", a Green hobby-seem to be in a forgiving mood. the endless hascos, the voters horse that was to free funds for After an initial slump, poll ratings are up, and Mr Schröder, hiessed by a feeble opposition, has a commanding lead in the popularity stakes.

On balance, the first 100 days

### Hamas killing stirs tensions

RELATIVES OF a Palestinian By ERIC SILVER intelligence officer, shot dead by fugitive Hamas gunmen in the Gaza Strip on Monday, dem-anded the death penalty yesterday for his three suspected killers. The family refused to visits until justice was done.

The killing rekindled tensions between Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Islamic opponents of peace with Israel, which were provoked by last October's Wve Agreement Mr Arafat who is in Washington this week urging President Bill Clinton to make Israel complete its promised West Bank withdrawal, is eager to show he is cracking down on the men of violence.

Captain Rafat Jouda, their latest victim, noticed the wanted men in the Sinai border town of Rafah and gave chase. A police spokesman said the captain opened fire when they refused to stop. The three shot back, fatally wounding him and an eight-year-old girl.

They were captured later in the Shati refugee camp. The men were identified as Ra ed el Attar, Osama Abu Taha and Mohammed Abu Shamala, They appeared on a list of alleged killers presented by Israel to the PA during the Wye negotiations. They are accused of helonging to Hamas's military wing, Ezzedin al-Qassam

Palestinian police later arrested dozens of Hamas protesters who stoned a police station. At the same time, the Hamas leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, launched a hunger



Yassin: On hunger strike

strike in sympathy with Hamas activists held without trial. Israel's Prime Minister, Ben-

jamin Netanyahu, has frozen the Wye accords until after the election. He launched his reelection campaign this week under the slogan "A strong leader for a atrong people" The three-month deadline for completing the current West Bank redeployment expired at the weekend with Israel still holding 11 of the 13 per cent of land it was due to hand over.

Mr Netanyahu justified the delay by accusing Mr Arafat of freeing 21 prisoners serving sentences for murdering Israelis and Americans. Yediot Aharonot, Israel's

biggest-selling daily newspaper. challenged Mr Netanyahu's contention that the PA is operating a "revolving door".

It said 197 Hamas activists had been arrested since October and were still being held in Palestinian prisons.



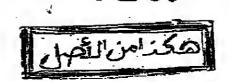


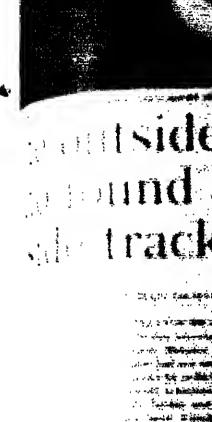
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# mas killing rs tensions

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counsel investigating Mr Clinton after be was credited with US hits missile site US WARPLANES bombed and apparently destroyed a newly established anti-ship missile site in southern Iraq yesterday

that could threaten shipping in Pentagon officials said that. in the latest of a series of incidents involving US and Iraqi forces, four attack jets from the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson in the Gulf attacked the Russian-made CSSC-3 missile

least four strikes against antiaircraft missile and radar sites in a "no-fly" zone in northern Iraq on Tuesday, the US Department of Defense said.

Defence officials said the missiles, with a range of about 60 miles, were moved in the past week to the coast southeast of Basra and could have posed a threat either to US warships or commercial shipping.

Lewinsky yesterday: Clinton's 'statement of regret' is recognition she has not incriminated him further

The outsider

who found an

BY MARY DEJEVSKY

finding a \$100,000-a-year job for

his former associate attorney

general, Webster Hubble, Mr

Hubble had just served a prison

sentence for embezzling money

Mr Jordan and Mr Clinton

have been friends for many years. In 1992-93 Mr Jordan

chaired Mr Clinton's transition

team, the group that ensures

continuity between the outgo-

ing and incoming administra-

tions. He also gives him a

conduit to the rising black elite.

common: from their political

acumen to their love of golf and

their eye for women, and they

dine together regularly. Mr

Clinton has said of Mr Jordan:

betray a friendship. It's good to have a friend like that."

"The last thing he'd ever do is

But the friendship works

both ways. Mr Jordan's law

firm and responsibilities are af-

fected by government priorities

and legislation and, while no

one has suggested any impropriety, Mr Jordan's direct line

to the top of the administration

cannot harm his clients.

The two men have much in

from his Arkansas law firm.

inside track

VERNON JORDAN, 63, is re-

garded with something akin to awe in Washington: an out-

sider by background and colour,

who became the supreme

Washington insider and simul-

taneously the biggest Friend of

After a law degree and active

work for the civil rights move-

ment, he sprang to a partnership in the influential legal firm

of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld. Now director of a clutch

of big companies, be earns up-

ward of \$1m (£600,000) a year,

but until now kept a low profile.

He is the quintessential Wash-

ington power broker, a behind-

showed, one call from Mr Jor-

dan can produce remarkable

results. She was offered a job at Revion in New York, but had

also been interviewed by Amer-

lcan Express and Young and

That is one of the points on

which be was expected to be

questioned yesterday. But Mr

Jordan had already come to the

attention of the independent

As Ms Lewinsky's job search

the-scenes "fixer".

Bill (Clinton) in town.

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# Senators view tapes of 'poised' Lewinsky

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S long- BY MARY DEJEVSKY time lawyer-friend, Vernon Jordan, was questioned yesterday by a House of Representatives prosecutor" seeking to establish his role in Monica Lewinsky's job search. Mr Jordan was seen entering the Capitol shortly before 9am, and he was escorted to a secure room which is reserved for especially confidential meetings.

His arrival coincided with the release to senators of the earest transcripts and videotapes of Ms Lewinsky's testimony from the previous day, giving the senator-jurors in Mr Clinton's impeachment trial their first opportunity to judge Ms Lewinsky's veracity for themselves. The tapes are not to be made public unless the Senate so votes, perhaps tomorrow, but it had taken only a couple of bours for the first information about her evidence to leak out. She was reported to have been confident, polished and

in Washington

poised - not surprising, perhaps, for someone who was testifying under oath for the 23rd time - and to have stuck closely to her previous account. But the session, which took place in the Mayflower Hotel, produced one surprise. The White House lawyers decided to forgo their questioning; instead, the deputy White House counsel, Nicole Seligman, read a short statement of regret "on behalf of the President" for what Ms Lewinsky had had to endure

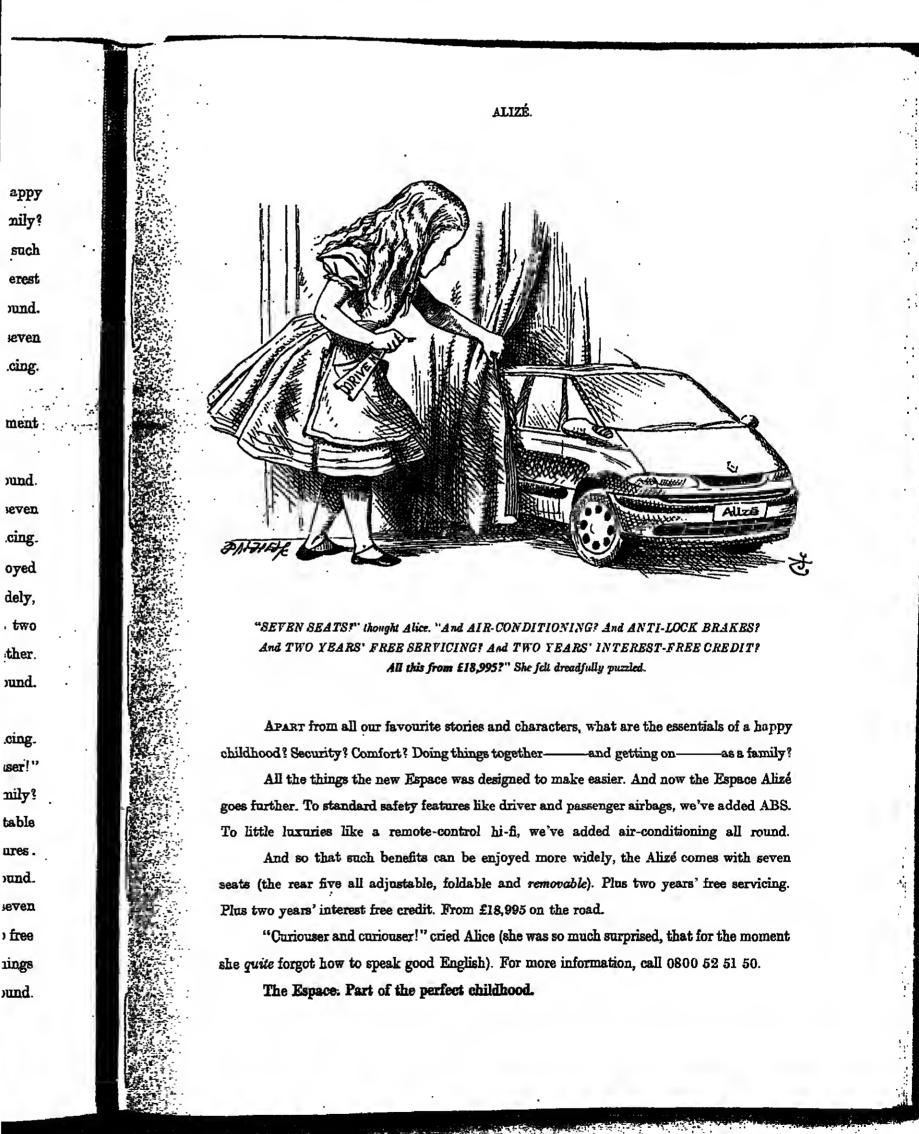
over the past year. In September, Mr Clinton had said that he wanted Ms as a witness in the sexual ha-Lewinsky and his family to know that his "sorrow" over what had happened was genuine, but this was the closest he had come to offering her a direct apology. The olive branch knowledgement that she had

not incriminated him further, in part, as a way of discouraging timetable envisages a vote on her from taking veogeance in Mr Clinton's guilt or innocence future. The Senate has still to on 12 February, as long as no furvote on whether to call Ms ther witnesses are called. Lewinsky and the other wit-Many Republicans, however,

nesses to testify in person. have misgivings about leaving Yesterday's questioning of everything to the vote; they Mr Jordan was expected to know there is no chance of conviction, because they lack the 67 focus on how much he knew votes needed, but fear the conabout the true nature of Ms Lewinsky's relationship with sequences of acquittal, which Mr Clinton and his reason for so they feel would be treated by the assiduously helping her job White House as a vindication search. House prosecutors claim he was well aware that she had been sexually involved with the President and that the job search was "intensified" after Ms Lewinsky was named

rassment suit brought against Mr Clinton by Paula Jones. Even at the mid-point of the witness testimony - the White House aide, Sidney Blumenthal will be questioned today - the Senate was stepping up its search for what has become not "get away with it".

One group favours a formal statement, "findings of fact" that would place on record much of the prosecution case Vesterday another solution was broached by Orrin Hatch, the Utah senator who tried before to save Mr Clinton's presidency, in an article for The New York Times. He proposed adjourning the Senate trial with out a vote, thereby depriving Mr Clinton of an acquittal and conveying the message that he did





The New Espace Aliza



# Serbs play politics as relatives wait to bury massacre victims

BY RAYMOND WHITAKER in Pristina

ALL THE way to the Kosovan capital, Bedrije cried in our car. She was following the same route as her brother, Muhamet Ismajli Syla, who died with seven other members of their family in the Racak massacre on 15 January. His body and those of 39 others were seized two days later by Serbian security forces and taken to the morgue at Pristina hospital, 18 miles away. Now she was going to bring his remains ome - or so she thought.

Bedrije herself had not been to Pristina for seven months. Kosovo's ethnic Albanians are fearful of making such journeys, during which it is quite possihle to vanish. The relatives of the 45 victims of Racak have lived, since the massacre, in near-complete uncertainty.

"We just want an official statement from someone, but we've heard nothing," said another member of her family. But the local branch of the

Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK), the main Albanian party, had announced that the relatives of the dead should assemble yesterday morning in Stimlje, the main town in the district, and go up to Pristina in convoy to collect the bodies. It had been on the TV news from Albania: everything must have heen arranged.

We want to bury them all together in a special place, and name it the graveyard of heroes," said Bedrije as the convoy, accompanied by carloads of international media, arrived at the morgue. The relatives stood outside in the snow grizzled farmers in traditional white Albanian hats, old women in white headscarves of mourning - waiting for someone to tell

them what to do next. Shaban Halimi, a party official from Stimlje, borrowed a reporter's mobile phone. After a n while trucks arrived to carry the bodies home, but it began to dawn on everyone that nothing had been arranged. The LDK was evidently hoping that the presence of the families and swarms of television cameras would force the Serbian au-



Relatives of the dead killed in the massacre at Racak wait outside the hospital morgue in Pristina for permission to take the bodies for burial

thorities to give up the bodies, the massacre. "Some people but the doors of the morgue remained closed.

Rumours ran through the gathering as the wait dragged on. "If they won't release all the bodies, I say we shouldn't take any of them," shouted an old man, responding to one such story. Others were thinking of their homes in Racak, which has remained deserted since

say there are Serbian policemen living there now," said a villager, "We haven't been there for more than two weeks - who knows what is going on?"

The LDK's tactics worked to the extent that Michael Petersen, a human rights official of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Racak massacre, arrived on the scene. He and two representatives of the families went into the morgue to negotiate with Serbian officials, but hope was ebbing among the families, despite the efforts of Bedrije, who was urging everyone to stay

"until we get the bodies back". Her anger grew when Mr Pe-(OSCE), which is monitoring tersen emerged. "We want to

the ceasefire shattered by the make sure that the funeral is carried out in a dignified manner," he said, "and we have agreed that with the help of the OSCE, the relatives and Serbian and Albanian authorities, it will be organised to everyone's satisfaction." He would be having further meetings with Serbian officials, but word was that it would be another two or

three days before the dead of

Racak could be laid to rest. This makes me think that Europe is intimidated by Serhia," said Bedrije. "Europe should be ashamed that women have to come here and be treated like this, waiting five hours in the cold." The general mood,

and she climbed reluctantly into a car to go home. But then, in an apparent re-

versal, the Serbian judge Danica Marinkovic said the families

David Rose

could take the bodies. There was to be more haggling ahead. When the families returned to Pristina they insisted the OSCE organised the hand-over of the bodies and the however was one of resignation burial because they feared Serb harassment. "We are afraid." said Hafiz Mustafa, one of the

### Yeltsin returns to face a feud

BY PHIL REEVES in bloscow

A PRAGILE Boris Yeltsin made an unexpected visit to his Kremlin office vesterday - his first this year - only to be faced with two new headaches: the loss of his loyal Prosecutor General, and a feud between his prime minister and a prominent

The return of Mr Yeltsin, who has been out of view in hospital for two weeks with a bleeding ulcer, was signalled by the Kremlin which released TV. pictures showing the president raising a champagne toast to mark his 68th birthday on Monday, alongside the Russian Patriarch, Alexei II, his premier Yevgeny Primakov, and chief of

Although the group were smiling, Mr Yeltsin's grin may not have been as warmly felt as it looked. His relationship with Mr Primakov has been under strain after a failed effort by the premier - who is now Russia's day-to-day leader - to introduce a deal with parliament that would restrict the Kremlin's powers.

At the same time, pulitical warfare has broken out between Mr Primakov and Boris Berezovsky, a media magnate and former Kremlin confidant whose fortunes have been on the wane since the economic crash in August.

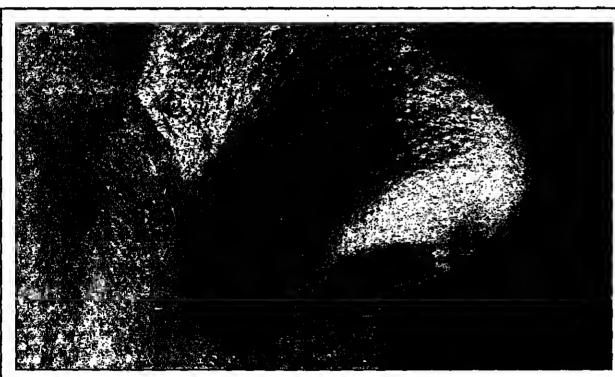
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clear

Mr Berezovsky, who is also executive secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States, has made no secret of his dislike of the premier, whom he has accused of polarising the political establishment and heading a "pro-Communist" administration,

The premier has responded by suggesting that a man in his political position should refrain from criticising Russia's lead-

The oligarch has found himself the target of a "kompromat" campaign, with compromising material published in the press, which alleged he set up a private KGB-style outfit to spy on the Kremlin, including Mr Yeltsin's influential daughter, Tatyana.



### **Badly impaired breathing? Snoring?**

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Put blundy, you're probably suffering from a permanent swelling of the nasal lining, which probably means you can't breathe easily, often have a dry mouth and snore.

And it probably gets worse when the

attempting to sleep, out shopping, at work, or whenever the air quality is

A SIMPLE PROCEDURE

The only solution is to remove the hlockage. Which in medical terms means removing the nasal lining mucosa that is obstructing the air passages. Until recently, this could be carried out surgically, noder general anaesthetic, which to most people is extremely daunting.

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Now, thanks to a new laser procedure which is remarkably simple, can be carried out in one or two quick visits. and only requires a local anaesthetic, your nose can be instantly unblocked. You feel no pain, have no bleeding, temperature rises, when you're and therefore no nasal dressings, and

immediately afterwards.

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To request your free copy of our booklet on nasal obstruction call our 24 hour Answer Line on 0171 224 4250 or



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and activities to get you using your new language in natural and enjoyable ways. One, the Name Game, unlocks the meaning of thousands of words from the very first day.

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time more settings. The Physical Learning Video – litar immerses you to the language.

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Education News says, "it's radically different there are so many features about it that recommend it to the learner." The Bankers Institute of New Zealand says, "Accelerated Learning is the new competitive weapon."

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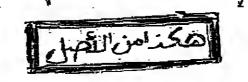
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# Yeltsin returns

THE INDEPENDENT Wednesday 3 February 1999

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Allen sentence of Mr. Ashery who has been out of their in hospital for two weeks with a bired and repeat mean originated by the Kramin which televised It pictures streaming the president total a chambaine frest in month his doth turthelist on Men the alongude the Raman Pa tracet, Alexer II. he premier Primakov, and chief

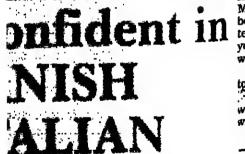
Although the group were Mag. Mr Seltsin : erin may and have bren as warrely felt a it looked. His retailending min Mr. Primakos has been lander strain after a failed effort by the premier who is non linesia's day to day leader - to minday . does with parlament that would restrict the horning

At the same time policy wartere has levken out be tween Mr Primakey and Ben Boresmaky a medic morns and former Kremin contant whose fortunes have been a the sease much the or more create in August

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to face a feud BY PAU RETAIN AFRAGELE Book Vell minide

Dr Eugene Turner (centre) reacts as murder charges over the death of three-day-old Conor McInnerney are dismissed in Port Angeles on Monday AP/Tom Thompson

# Parents fight on after doctor the hour next state of the period of the learner of the period of the latter of the la

on Washington State's rugged in Seattle Olympic Peninsula, residents were digesting the latest twist yesterday in a legal and ethical drama that has obsessed the city for more than a year.

The city's leading paediatrician, Eugene Turner, who was to have stood trial this week accused of killing a three-day-old boy, had been cleared of allcharges even before a jury had been empanelled. The decision, announced by the prosecution in an overflowing courtroom on Monday, brought sturned relief tended to local children for 27 years,and to most of the city, which had rallied to his defence.

It brought dismay, bowever, to the parents of the baby, who ckly served notice that they will be pursuing Dr Turner

The events of 12 January axe to his wife and killed her. Their baby, Dr Turner said,

IN PORT ANGELIES, a scaport. By David Usbonne.

1998, when tiny Conor McInnerney, then three days old, stopped breathing while breastfeeding at his parents' home, and the legal maeistrom that they triggered, have put Port Argula into a media spettight across the United States:

At issue is a question that even the medical establishment has difficulty answering: in a child so young when is dead really dead?

It was a tragedy, moreover, that was to claim yet another victim. The chief emergency room doctor in the city's Olympic Memorial Hospital, Dr Bruce Rowan, whose notes from the night of baby Conor's death were to form the crux of the prosecution case against Dr. Marty and Michelle McInner-Turner, six weeks later took an

Since convicted of murder, he said he was partly driven to kill by anguish over the baby. There is little dispute over

what transpired on the night Conor died. The child was taken to the hospital at 8.15pm. He was limp, blue in colour his eyes were dilated and he was not breathing. Nationally, be ould have been flown to nearby Seattle for treatment but a rare snowstorm had grounded all helicopter service. So Dr Rowan telephoned Dr Turner

for help. Early resuscitation efforts at the hospital had stimulated some signs of life in the infant. But after striving for an bour to restore normal breathing and

a heartbeat, Dr Turner gave up. He gave a seemingly lifeless Conor to his stricken parents, ney, to hold one more time.

had died. He mid both purents October before finally fling left the hospital for their homes but then, at about 10,30pm, a murse noticed something extraordinary as she passed the room where the infant's body had been placed.

The child was taking occasional gasps, his upper body was mying theitly and his faint pink. Dr Rowan summoned Dr Turner back.

At about midnight a nurse glass of juice for Dr Turner who had been trying to revive the child once more, at one point by lawyers said that the last spasplunging him in a basin of iced

The doctor had one hand over the boy's nose and mouth. According to one nurse, be muttered: "I can't stand it. I can't have this go on any more." The County Prosecutor, David Bruneau, waited until

second-degree murder charges against Dr Turner. It was a decision that many believe cost him his job - one month later, he was turned out of office by county voters after 17 years of

service to the community. In the weeks following, the people of Port Angeles raised the much-liked paediatrician.

"I probably would not do it again," Dr Turner said recently walked into the room with a of the smothering. But he has insisted that he did nothing criminal in court filings, his modic breaths of the child was case of "agonal breathing"

that signifies imminent death. And the child, the lawyers asserted, was already brain dead. Medical research, bowever, suggests that determining the moment of death in a person so young is unusually difficult. A

activity without oxygen for longer than an adult's. Dr Turner still runs his clinic

in Port Angeles but has already lost his right to practise at Memorial hospital. The state's medical commission is to hold a hearing that could result to his being at ipper of his licence and criminal charges against him could be reinstated if new evidence emerges

Meanwhile, he faces the civil suit. An attorney for Conor's parents told reporters that Dr Turner's conduct "was simply wrong. Marty and Michelle will always be haunted by the image of what Dr Turner did while he was alone with Conor that night."

In their own statement, the McInnerneys said they "will continue to do everything we can to see justice for Conor".

### All set for the feeding frenzy

**AMERICAN TIMES** 

LOS ANGELES

You know the kind: the endless choice of bacoo or sausage, of eggs poached, scrambled or fried, over easy, over medium or sunny side up; of French toast, Belgian waffles or English muffins; of rye bread, wheat bread or granary; of pancakes, home fries or hash browns; of grits, porridge or biscuits with

It was all wonderfully reminiscent of homesteaders stoking up for a hard day in the fields sometime towards the end of the 19th century. In the modern, fast-paced largely urban world, though, it seems nobody has that kind of time.

For sure, Americans still love to go out for breakfast at the weekend and order the works. But at bome it's a different story. Gone is the era when Mom would rise early crank up the stove and prepare a bearty meal for the whole family. Most mothers these days are in as much of a hurry to get out of the house as fathers and schoolchildren and the result is that, where breakfast is concerned, there is only one meaningful criterion any more: the faster the better.

The result is little short of an early-morning eating revdown. Toast consumption is down. Even breakfast cereal consumption is down. Here, in the land of cornflakes, Kellogg's has reported a drop in sales of nearly 10 per cent in its most familiar products over the past year, Admittedly, the company has lost market share to its competitors, but the percentage of American breakfasts featuring a bowl of cereal has dropped steadily in the 1990s, from just under 40 per cent to just over 30.

Welcome to the era of socalled convenience breakfasts: cereal bars, pastries you can pop in the toaster, Nearly two-thirds of Ameriof the day away from home, according to the National Restaurant Association, and that means eating in the driveway, in the car, in the bus or - most frequently - on arrival in the workplace.

Kellogg's has already gone into overdrive marketing its Nutri-Grain Bars and Pop-Tarts, both variants on the healthy, fruit-filled cereal bar. There are now Nutri-Grain Twists to spice up the formula (double fillings of strawberry

ONCE UPON a time there and cream, or apple and cinwas breakfast in America. namoo), Pastry Swirls and Wild Magic Burst Pop-Tarts, exposed to heat.

Post Cereals, meanwhile, has devised a portable version of its most portable product lines, which rushed parents can feed to their children in the car without fear of spills or milk stains. And Pillsbury has gone one further, condensing the tradi-tional breakfast into the Toaster Scramble, a flaky pastry confection filled with eggs, cheese and bacon or sausage that requires just a couple of minutes' browning on each side.

And where these pioneers have shown the way, others are following. Last year, 23 new toaster pastries were put on the market as well as 78 new national bagel brands. Some car companies are even looking at the possibility of fitting their new models with microwave ovens to save needless hanging around at bome at the start of the wor-

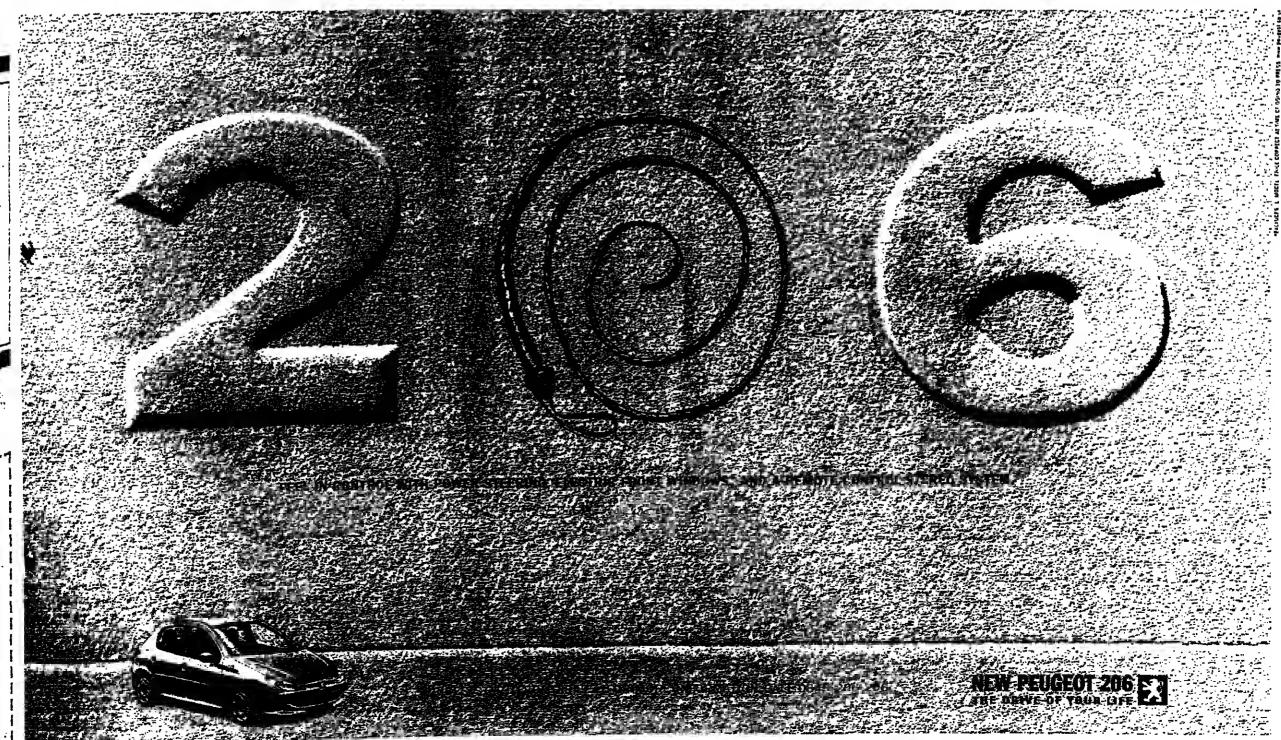
This being America, the idea of convenience breakfast has been around for a while, Back in 1971, an employee of McDonald's grappled with the challenge of how to serve a portable, non-spillable version of eggs Benedict - another American breakfast classic - and came up with the multi-billion dollar generating Egg McMuffin.

The co-ordination required to eat a bowl of cornflakes is just too much to ask these days. "Going from hand to bowl to mouth is out," says the breakfast-oriented marketing firm First Matter. "Going from hand to mouth is much more in sync with lifestyles built on mobility."

It can't be too loog, surely, before the automatic feeding contraption featured in Charlie Chaplin's 1936 classic Modern Times as an efficiency device for factory workers, enabling them to keep working while they eat, satirical film fantasy to grim, post-modern reality.

Unless, of course, Americans are more readily seduced by the equally rampant craze for coffee bars. After all, it doesn't take more than a couple of minutes to grab breakfast at a bar-either first thing in the morning or as a quick break a couple of hours later. Ask the Italians. They've been doing it for

ANDREW GUMBEL



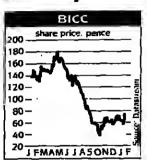
# BUSINESS

### **BRIEFING**

Eureko ponders cash bid for GRE THE BOARD of Eureko, the consortium of nine European insurers, meets today to consider a cash bid for Guardian Royal Exchange to trump the agreed £3.28bo cash and-

paper offer from AXA, the French insurance giant.
Eureko executives are examining a full cash alternative
to top AXA's offer of 249p cash plus 0.243 shares in Sun Life & Provincial, its majority-owned UK subsidiary. Because of a sharp slide this week in Sun Life's share price, AXA's offer has fallen from 389p to 375p a share. It is understood Eureko may offer substantial equity stakes to GRE's management in an effort to persuade them to stay on. Shares in GRE closed down 2p at 359p.

#### BICC leaps on bid speculation



troubled cables group, leapt by 16 per ceot vesterday oo growing speculation that the acquisitive miniconglomerate Wassall was preparing a bid.

Wassall, which has a 9.3 per cent stake in BICC. fuelled the rumours after refusing to rule oot a takeover approach in the

future. In a statement released yesterday. Wassall said it was "monitoring" its investment in BICC, adding that this "may or may oot lead to an offer".

### Oftel ranks best mobile networks

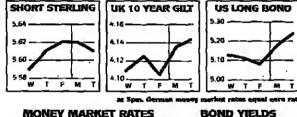
OFTEL, the telecoms watchdog, yesterday published the results of a survey into the efficiency of mobile phone networks in an attempt to force mobile phone operators to agree common performance standards.

The survey showed that Orange was the most reliable network with a call success rate of 95 per cent, while Vodafone and Cellnet registered just above 90 per cent and One-2-One just below 90 per cent. Cellnet challenged the results of the survey, arguing that data should have been collected over a longer period.

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FTSE 350	2855.70	8.30	0.29	2969,10	2210.40	2.76
FTSE All Share	2756.48	8,56	0.31	2886,52	2143,53	2.81
FTSE SmallCap	2169.80	15,20	Q.71	2793.80	1834.40	3.71
FTSE Fledgling	1196.20	2.10	0.18	1517.10	1046.20	4.52
FTSE AIM	828.10	5,60	-0.67	1146,90	761.30	1.20
FTSE Eurotop 100	2811.24	-22,02	-0.78	3079.27	2018,15	2,11
FTSE Eurotop 300	1224,70	-7.61	-0,62	1332.07	880.63	1,98
Dow Jones	9242,19	-102,48	-1.10	9647.96	7400,30	1.66
Nikket	14349.83	-115,35	-0.80	17352.35	12787,90	1.01
Hang Seng	9502.72	96.83	-1.01	11926,16	6544.79	3.71
Dax	5166.87	21 91	-0.46	6217.83	3833.71	1,67
56P 500	1255.73	-17.14	-1.35	1283,64	923.32	1.26
Nasdag	2461.71	-48.20	-1,97	2533.44	1357.09	0.28
Yoronto 300	6683,20	-81,54	-1.21	7837,70	5320.90	1.61
Brazil Bovespa	8662,16	-278.84	2.57	12339.14	4575.69	7.27
Belgium Bel20	3455,19	10.29	0.30	3713.21	2585.74	2.05
Amsterdam Each	532.79	-7.22	-1.34	600.65	366.58	1.85
France CAC 40_	4243.57	-60.35	-1,40	4404,94	2881.21	1.90
Milan MIB30	34623.00	-541.00	-1.54	39170.00	24175.00	1.15
Madrid (bex 35_	9943.60	-54.60	<u>~0.55</u>	10989,80	6869_90	1.87
Insh Overall	5302.20	97.24	1.87	5581.70	3732.57	1.43
5 Korea Comp	567,28	14.39	-2.47	651.95	277.37	1.03
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### INTEREST RATES



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0.47	-0.34	0.49	-0.30	2.39	0.36	3.41	0.76
3.09	-0.43	3.00	-0.78	3.69	-1.38	4,62	-1.05
	5.81 4.97 0.47	5.81 -1.75 4.97 -0.65	5.81 -1.75 5.50 4.97 -0.65 5.10 0.47 -0.34 0.49	5.81         -1.75         5.50         -1.98           4.97         -0.65         5.10         -0.55           0.47         -0.34         0.49         -0.30	5.81         -1.75         5.50         -1.98         4.14           4.97         -0.65         5.10         -0.55         4.79           0.47         -0.34         0.49         -0.30         2.39	5.81     -1.75     5.50     -1.98     4.14     -1.93       4.97     -0.65     5.10     -0.55     4.79     0.78       0.47     -0.34     0.49     -0.30     2.39     0.36	4.97         -0.65         5.10         -0.55         4.79         0.78         5.24           0.47         -0.34         0.49         -0.30         2.39         0.36         3.41

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Dollar	1.6439	+0.27c	1.6398	Sterling	0.6083	-0.10p	0.609
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	ar share	cuanta	11 140		- 2001	Comme	11 740
Dollar	1.6439	+0.27c	1.6398	Sterling	0.6083	-0.10p	0.6098
Euro	1.4528	+0.11c	1.4079	Euro	1,1315	+0.10c	1.1665
Yen	184.20	-44.69	207,10	Yen	112.04	-¥3.05	126.28
£ index	100.80	0.00	104,80	5 Index	105.30	0.00	109.20
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Silver (S)	5.28	0 01	6.25	Base Rates	6.00		
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	T	OURIST	RATES	
	Australia (\$)	2.4945	Mexico (nuevo peso)	15.0
	Austria (schillings)	19.37	Netherlands (guilders)	3.103
	Belgium (francs)	56.93	New Zealand (5)	2.891
	Canada (\$)	2.4173	Norway (kroner)	12.11
	Cyprus (pounds)	0.8156	Portugal (escudos)	281.19
	Denmark (kroner)	10.54	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.996
	Finland (markka)	8,4042	Singapore (\$)	2.6532
	France (francs)	9.2529	South Africa (rands)	9.5327
	Germany (marks)	2.7685	Spain (pesetas)	234.34
	Greece (drachma)	454.24	Sweden (kronor)	12.61
	Hong Kong (\$)	12.37	Switzerland (francs)	2.2724
	Ireland (punts)	1.1084	Thailand (bahts)	54.82
	indian (rupees)	62.57	Turkey (lirasi)	527317
	Israel (shekels)	6.1992	USA (\$)	1.607
	Italy (lira)	2742		
	Japan (yen)	183.03	Pales for indication purpo	ses only
ľ	Malaysia (ringgits)	5.9373		

# PwC faces £400m lawsuit over Maxwell audit failure

THE WORLD'S largest profes-sional services firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), faces the prospect of a £400m lawsuit in the wake of yesterday's record punishment from the accountancy profession's watchdog over its role in the Maxwell affair.

Observers believe lawyers preparing the negligence claim against the firm will feel their case is strengthened by the report from the accountants' Joint Disciplinary Tribunal that found that Coopers & Lybrand, now part of PwC, and four of its partners failed to meet the dards in auditing various parts of the Maxwell empire.

The claim is being brought by Grant Thornton, which took over from Price Waterhouse as administrators of Maxwell Communication Corporation in 1997 after PW announced it was merging with Coopers. Although Coopers' role at MCC was oot covered by the Joint Disciplinary Scheme investigation, it is believed that the report's description of the firm's method of operation could help build a picture of how it worked in other parts of the husiness group cootrolled by the late Robert Maxwell.

The case is not due to reach court until 2002, but it could possibly be settled out of court before then. Last year, Coopers' merger partner, PW, and Ernst & Young settled the \$11hn claim launched against them in 1991 International for just \$125m. The report brings to an end

one of Britain's most serious financial scandals. It concentrated oo Mr Maxwell's private companies and publicly-quoted Mirror Group Newspapers. Coopers points out that it has not been alleged that the firm

a five-year investigation into

lapse of the Maxwell empire by audits.

its omissions. But the disciplinary tribunal - Roger Henderson QC, who acted as chairman, Ian McNeil, former partner at Moores Rowland and past president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants; and John Platt, a retired executive with venture capitalists 3i - found that a lack of objectivity in dealing with Mr Maxwell and his companies lay at the heart of many of the 35 complaints laid against the firm and the four partners.

The complaints reveal required professional stan- shortcomings in both vigilance and diligence and a failure to achieve an appropriate degree of objectivity and scepticism. which might have led to an earlier recognition and exposure of the reality of what was occurring," it said. It added: "The firm lost the plot"

In addition to ordering PwC and four of its partners to pay fines and costs totalling nearly £3.5m, the tribunal censured the firm and one partner, John Steven Cowling.

Two of the other three partners - Stephen Richard Wootten and Nicholas Paul Richard Parker - were admonished. was ordered to pay a share of Peter Smith, senior partner

of PwC, said in a statement that the firm "fell short of the very high standards we set ourselves". Adding that this was "a by liquidators to the collapsed matter of deep regret", he Bank of Credit and Commerce pointed out that the Joint Disciplinary Tribunal report made clear that the auditors were the victims of deliberate deceit". Peter Hazell, the firm's man-

aging partner, said the affair was "a source of embarrassment for us", but added that he and his colleagues would be seeking to persuade clients to stick with the firm by pointing caused direct financial loss or to the major changes made to caused or facilitated the col- the way in which they carry out



The fourth, Ian Robert Steere, Robert Maxwell: Coopers & Lybrand failed to meet professional standards' in auditing his empire Brian Harris

### COOPERS AND THE MAXWELL AFFAIR

M July 1971 - Covernment report describes Maxwell as "a person who cannot be relied upon to exercise proper stewardship of a publicly-quoted company". # 1972 on - Coopers & Lybrand appointed auditors of nearly all Maxwell-controlled companies and their pension funds at that time and

as they later came into existence. # February 1995 - JDS lavesti-■ 5 November 1991 - Robert Maxwell falls off yacht, spacking the collapse of the his media emiline and the discovery of mes-Maxwell company pension foods. as administrator of MCC respon-

Early 1993 - Accountants' Joint Disciplinary Scheme (JOS) begins investigation of role of Coopers & conflict arising from amouncement Lybrand as auditors of Manueli em-

# 1994 - Coopers attempts to hait inquiry pending lawsnit by administrators of Maxwell Communication Corporation (MCC). gation resumes.

# 14 November 1997 - JDS dis-Children framer Maxwell executives, Michael Stoney and Jonethan Ford.

sible for dealing with negligence action against Coopers as a result of of merger between PW and Coopers. The claim is likely to total about £400m and is not due to come to court matil 2002.

laid against Coopers and 24 against tour individual partners — John Steven Cowling, Izn Robert Steers. Stephen Richard Wootten and Nicholas Paul Richard Parker - in relation to Mirror Group Newspapers and other Maxwell companies in the period 1988 to 1991. M October 1998 - Joint Discipli-

**27** April 1998 – 35 complaints

derson QC and accompanied by lan McNeil, a retired partner in Moores. Rowland and past president of the institute of Chartered Accountants. and John Platt, a retired head of 3i, considers complaints. M January 1999 - Coopers

informed of tribunal's findings and given one month to appeal. III 2 February 1999 - Report pub-Ashed showing Coopers and the four partners ordered to pay a total of nearly £3.5m in tines and costs. The firm and Mr Cowling are censured, while Mr Wootten and Mr Parker are admonished.

## Weir shares jump 42% in two Two founding LTCM days on takeover bid talks

SHARES IN Weir group, the BY CLIFFORD GERMAN Scottish pump manufacturer, rose 61.5p to 294.5p yesterday, making a two-day lcap of 42 per cent, after the Glasgow-based engineer became the latest engineering company to reveal it has received an unsolicited approach that might lead to a bid.

Last week the shares were trading on a multiple of under 10-times earnings and a discount of 30 per cent to the engineering sector as a whole. The approach comes just 24

hours after the chairman, Lord Weir, retired and the company appointed Duncan Whyte from

Scottish Power as chief executive from 1 June. The most likely bidders include ITT the world's largest

pump manufacturer, which recently sold its automotive businesses for \$3.6bn. ITT is likely to be cash positive even after mounting a \$1.1bn stock repurchase. Other possible bidders in-clude IDEX, Flowserve or Textron, which last year bought David Brown's pump business in Huddersfield. FTT in particular would make a good fit, an-

Market sources expect a bid of around 300p, which would value Weir at £600m, but David Larkan, engineering analyst at over the past four years making Albert E Sharp, expects that ITT would have to offer around 350p to mount a realistic knock-out

Sir Ron Garrick, the current chief executive who takes over from Lord Weir as chairman, is expected to put up doughty resistance after spending nearly 20 years in building up the business, which is now one of the few remaining independent Scottish engineering groups and has over 8,000 employees.

Weir itself is a cash-rich company with a strong long-term order book. It has spent £200m

small but frequent acquisitions. Workdwide demand for new equipment is currently slack especially from the oil, mining and marine sectors, but demand for soares and service remains strong and the long-term future is bright.

Analysis expect Weir to make slow but steady progress with profits advancing from £59,3m in 1997 to around £63m in 1998 and £56m plus and earnings of 23.5p

# partners to leave

TWO FOUNDING partners of BY LEA PATERSON Long-Term Capital Manage ment, including a former Nobel prize winner, are to leave the hedge fund in the wake of its near-collapse last September. Myron Scholes, awarded the

1997 Nobel prize in economics for ground-breaking work on financial derivatives, is to return to Stanford University.

Dr Scholes, who shared his Nobel prize with fellow LTCM partner Robert Merton, said he originally planned to leave the fund last year. However, he delayed his departure following the crisis that engulfed LTCM in August and September.

The other LTCM departure is William Krasker, a Wall Street world's financial system.

fund from the investment bank Salomon Brothers. Like Dr Scholes, Mr Krasker plans to act as a consultant to LTCM.

Both men - the first wellknown departures from LTCM since its multi-billion dollar bailout in the autumn - will retain

their investments in the fund. LTCM hit the headlines last September after it lost more than \$4bn in the wake of the Russian debt default. The US Federal Reserve co-ordinated a \$3.6bn bail-out of the fund amid fears that its collapse would present a risk to the



### Former Soros aide to head Brazil central bank 🐇

George Soros was yesterday appointed to run Brazil's cen tral bank in the wake of the country's currency crisis.

Arminio Fraga, who used to Fund team. run the emerging markets fund at Soros Fund Management. flew to Brazil from New York to necome the country's third central bank governor in three day he was appointed. The curweeks. He immediately joined

A FORMER AIDE to financier By DIANE COYLE Economics Editor

and an International Monetary

Mr Fraga, once confirmed by the senate, will replace Francisco Lopes, who devalued the Brazilian real on 13 January the rency has since lost a third of later recovered ground.

its value against the dollar Figures show that reserves have dwindled to \$36bn, half their level six months ago. The government has halted publication of daily figures on capital flight.

The real strengthened by 10 per cent to 1.74 to the dollar at one point yesterday. Share prices in Sao Paolo fell 4 per cent as traders took profits, but

ment drew nothing but praise. In five years to May 1998 the fund managed by Mr Fraga delivered a 184 per cent return, making it the best-performing

kets said: "He comes from the same intellectual mould as the people in the IMF and markets." Mr Fraga, a Princeton- no change in policy.

The unexpected appoint- trained economist, worked at Salomon Brothers after his doctorate. He ran the international finance division of Brazil's central bank in the early 1990s before joining Mr Soros. He emerging market performer. has recently taught at Columbia University in New York. has recently taught at Colum-

The Finance Ministry said the aim was to strengthen the central bank and there would be

### AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

THE 250 middle ranking shares made the market running. Takeover excitement among engineers and builders sent the mid cap index soaring 93.5 points to 5.215.3. Blue chips, as measured by Footsie, were just 0.6 higher at 6,012. Trading was again heavy,

with turnover above 1.2 billion. The takeover approach to engineer Weir, a long-time bid favourite, generated much of the cuphoria. Weir jumped 62.5p to 294.5p, encouraging BICC, up 10.5p to 74p, and BBA, up 58p at 454.5p.

Derek Pain, page 21

US STOCKS were trading sharply lower amid concern about the valuations of hi-tech stocks. In afternoon trade, the Dow Jones

average was down 140.58 points -1.5 per cent - at 9,205.12. The Nasdaq was down 66.21 points or 2.64 per cent at 2,443.88. Investors are "taking a segment of the market that has

had a great run and putting a lid oo it," said Robert Froehlich, chief strategist at Scudder Kemper Investments. Investors were also jittery ahead of today's US interest-rate decision.

### TOKYO

TOKYO SHARES extended early losses to close down 115.35 points -0.8 per cent - at 14,349.83. Investors were shaken by the sharp rise in government bond yields, at their lighest level since July 1997.

Kazuhiro Miyake, strategist at Nikko Research Center, said: Rising long-term interest rates (implied by rising long-term bond yields] are more than Japan's ailing ecocomy can accept. Domestic corporate earnings may deteriorate further if high interest rates continue." There were fears that the stronger yen may harm growth.

### HONG KONG

HONG KONG shares closed after one of the territory's largest banks said bad debts io Chioa contributed to a 56 per cent drop in profits last year.

The Hang Seog index closed down 96.83 points at 9,502.72 in the wake of the Bank of East Asia's profit figures. Bank of East Asia - one of the first major banks to report 1998 earnings said profits fell to \$120m, and bad debt write-offs totalled \$192m. Analysts said BEA's debt provisions confirmed problems of

corporate bad loans in China.

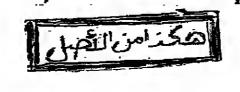
### SAO PAULO

PROFIT TAKING sent Brazilian shares lower in Sao Paulo

yesterday. In afternoon trade, the benchmark Bovespa index was down 233.27 points - or 2.62 per

cent - at 8,657,76. According to dealers, profit taking was triggered by o

The real climbed to 1.81 to the dollar, up from Monday's 1.91, after a Soros aide replaced Francisco Lopes as president of the Cental



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Sales Prof

OVER THE years Sir Ernest Harrison has proved himself much better at selling businesses than running them. His crowning glory remains Vodafone. When the cellular telephone business was spun off from the Racal group in 1991 it was worth £3.3bn. Today it is valued at £37bn, even before Vodafone doubles

in size by swallowing up Airtouch.
Now that he is reaching the twilight of his career Sir Ernest, 72, is keen to pull off one last deal that the City can remember him by and shareholders can thank him for The disposal of Racal Telecom, however, is proving more of a problem than Sir Ernest bargained for.

It is now more than a year since Racal announced its intention to ficat the business after plans for a trade sale failed to solicit any offers above £450m. Since then the Racal share price has powered ahead in the hope that Sir Ernest can reproduce some of his old magic.

But not much else has happened. Racal Telecom is still short of a chief executive and its trading performance remains pedestrian. Although the company still talks optimistically about a flotation this ear, the timing could easily slip into



### OUTLOOK

Now, however, there is a serious bidder back at the table. Dick Callahan, the former president of US West, has offered to pay Sir Ernest £700m to take Racal Telecom off his hands. Mr Callahan's financial backers are impressive - his bid is being funded by Bank of America and GE Capital Furthermore, Callahan Associates, the vehicle for the bid has offered Sir Ernest a deal whereby he can retain up to half the business and thereby share in the upside once it is under more dynamic

Sir Ernest, however, has rejected the offer. He has one eye on the track record of Vodafone and the other on the stratospheric share

that basis, he reckons he can get more for the business.

There are some important similarities between Energis and Racal Telecom. While the Energis network is strung along the National Grid's electricity pylons, Racal Telecom got into business by snapping up British Rall Telecom, whose network is strung along the rail network.

But there are also some important differences. The sky-high rating of Energis owes much to its growth record. Under Mike Grabiner, it is expanding at a rate of 75 per cent while lucrative data traffic is doubling each year. In contrast, Racal Telecom's margins are falling and its growth rate is a shiggish 5 per cent. Moreover, many of the juicy contracts with train operators and Railtrack that were used to fatten up British Rail Telecom for privatisation are coming up for

Sir Ernest is spending this week with the institutions explaining why his strategy for floating the business remains the best course. It will not be an easy task. There is now a £700m bid on the table and the chance for shareholders to gain from any unside in Racal Telecom.

price performance of Energis. On Furthermore, a trade sale of the telecoms arm could be the catalyst for the complete break-up of the group and the sale of the defence electronics business to BAe-Marconi or one of several European suitors. Sir Ernest has defied the odds before. But on this occasion, investors need to ask him some hard questions.

### CBI Budget

THERE WAS always a slight air of unreality about the love-in between business and the Labour Government. Yesterday's Budget submission by the CBI marks a return to normality. Not yet in anger, but rather in sadness, the bosses' organisation has told the Government that its proposals spell too much costly red tape for business.

The problem is not the actual burden of taxation on companies, nor even the windfall tax, but rather the requirement that companies implement some key measures of government policy. These include the national minimum wage, the working time directive and the working families tax credit. These are an administrative headache for hig employers, and a bit of a

nightmare for small companies. While the Government has made much of its plans to encourage small businesses, with the Pre-Budget Report and the Competitiveness White Paper emphasising entrepreneurship, Gordon Brown will have to deliver the goods next month just to offset the adverse impact of these other measures. They

fall most heavily on the tiniest firms. Recent research at Bath University has shown that simply collecting national insurance and income tax contributions through PAYE costs businesses employing 1-4 people £279 a year, whereas the cashflow each quarter means big companies benefit to the tune of £11 an employee. The WFTC could actually end up requiring small employers to pay cash up-front to low-paid staff before they can re-

claim it from the Inland Revenue. Given that the Government buried the reports of two taskforces on small business - one on finance for high-tech companies and one on smaller quoted companies - by publishing their papers on the same day as the Pre-Budget Report, it is easy to see why the business organisa tions have become sceptical about bow much genuine help the Gov-

ernment really has in store for the

They may be pleasantly surprised, for the Chancellor is sincere in his desire to stimulate enterprise and wealth-creation for the longterm benefit of the economy. Even so, a bit of tension in business-Government relations is a healthy sign of normality. It will keep both sides

### Maxwell ruling

THE ACCOUNTANTS Joint Disciplinary Tribunai has clearly been taking prose lessons from some of the newspapers once owned by the late Robert Maxwell, Phrases like "The firm lost the plot" do not fall easily from the lips in such a dry profes sion. And yet that is exactly what Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte did when it came to the auditing of the Maxwell empire. Judgements do not come much more damning than that of the JDS - in particular its conclusion that Coopers left its objectivity and scepticism outside the door

when it entered the Maxwell lair. It would be nice to think that auditors, like law firms, are nothing if not objective when dealing with clients. Sadly, the lure of fat fees makes it all too easy for them to become part of the process rather than a natural check on corporate

PriceWaterhouseCoopers is standing by the four senior partners singled out by the JDS on the grounds that they were "victims of deliberate deceit" as if this were something auditors should not be

on the lookout for. PwC has already salved its conscience by helping bale out the pension funds plundered by Maxwell while the £3.5m in fees and costs levied by the JDS, though a record sum, represents a mere flea bite for the world's biggest accountancy

More serious is the damages claim that PwC's 8.500 partners face from the receivers of the Maxwell empire. But it will be a miracle if this r reaches court and even then, the big five accountancy firms have a mutual insurance policy to deal with embarrassments like this.

The acid test is whether the JDS's admonition prevents another Maxwell scandal. A more effective sanction would have been to make an example of those partners

# **Prescott** urged to tear up rail map

News Analysis: A crisis summit may offer new passenger franchises as part of the Government's bid to get better value for taxpayers

BY PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent

THERE IS a joke doing the rounds of the railway industry. o founding HC Why is John Prescott holding a railway summit? Answer: because he wants summat' for nothing. It's not that funny, and the listed companies that now ) ake up the industry probably aren't laughing.

The summit on 25 February will be a crucial step in the Deputy Prime Minister's bid to get a grip on an industry that is failing the travelling public and the taxpayer.

The new railway bosses -Railtrack, National Express, Stagecoach, FristGroup, Go-Ahead, Connex, Prism and Virgin - will be hanging on Mr Prescott's every word for clues on how to proceed.

He has given some signposts. The Conservative ideology of best value for money will be replaced with a new formula that includes passenger benefits. The regulators will be replaced by a Strategic Rail Authority (SRA). Its chairman and chief executive – the new Fat Controllers, if you like - will be chises - some up for renewal in

2003 – will be reformed. Mr Prescott has a strong poitical imperative - official figires show a marked slump in bunctuality and reliability and he latest figures, published lext week, are likely to show performance has not improved.

n the first full year of privatiation to £655m in 2003/04. Stephen Joseph of Transport 000, the environmental pres-

subsidy is set to fall from £1.79bn

The industry faces a test as

sure group, says one of the greatest concerns is the state of rural railways. There have been rumours about the financial state of franchises such as Wales & West, North West

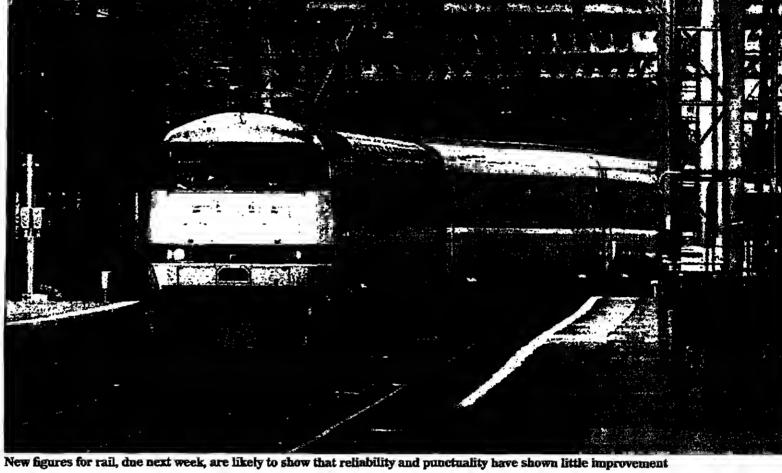
Trains and Northern Spirit. Mr Joseph said there was a growing realisation these franchises had not be given enough subsidy to run rural networks with less growth potential than commuter operations. NWT's subsidy falls from £100.4m in 1997/98 to £69m in 2003/04, Wales & West from £73.5m to £40.5m and Northern Spirit from £141.7m to £93.7m.

Other franchises still receiving public money have manuscrafts which substantial growth in passenger numbers. LTS Rail carries 11.3 per cent more than a year ago and received £27.7m in subsidy. Chiltern Railways grew by 8.7 per cent with a £14.4m subsidy and GNER, which received £55.1m, has grown 18 per cent

Mr Joseph said options in-

 Reletting some franchises with less subsidy from, or greater payments to, the Treasury in exchange for a redistribution to weaker networks: As above, but the benefits boosted by creating super-franchises that would provide massive cost-cutting opportunities and therefore greater profit; Amalgamating overlapping commercial and social rail fran-

Mr Joseph said: "It will vary from area to area. Wales & West could be amalgamated with Great Western, because it already acts as a feeder, but I don't think Virgin would want to take North West Trains into the West Coast main line."



think the unthinkable. In a remarkably honest statement in December but reported by Rail magazine last month, Glenda Jackson, the junior transport minister, said she could not rule out replacing trains with an infinitely better, faster, more modern, more accessible coach

So for only one real group Prism, has taken the bait. It runs two franchises that have surpassed expectations, LTS and WAGN, and two rural networks, Wales & West and Cardiff Valleys, which must cope with declining subsidies.

Chief executive Giles Fearnley said: "The SRA has some big issues to address in terms of how it wants to achieve value for money for the taxpayer. When it comes to franchise renewal in five or six years' time, all the subsidy will go to six rural businesses.

"It is a fact that the subsidy for a passenger on some rural branch lines is very significant indeed for what is, in effect, a service that could be provided with a more frequent and reliable bus service at a fraction of the cost."

He said the SRA needed to decide whether it was sensible to have two franchises operating on the same territory, as Great Western and Wales & West do. "When the rail franchises were set up it was drawn in 25 hits. Are these the right 25

The Government is ready to or could they be drawn in a be done with Great Eastern, more effective way?"

Another senior industry figure agreed, saying Wales & West - minus its north-west routes - could be merged with Great Western and Cardiff Valleys. The same exercise could

Angila Railwayer Sagan Miner Caruliff Railwayer Control Trains 12/1/19 Connex South Eastern 2/1/19 Connex South Eastern 2/1/19 CrossCountry Caruliff Connex South Eastern 2/1/19 Connex South Eastern 2/19 Connex

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South West Trains
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Thames Trains
1/4/10/96

West Anglia Great Northern
2/4/7

West Coast Trains
9/4/97

How long before the franchises are renewed, yrs

West Anglia, Great Northern and Anglian. A merger of South West Trains, SouthCentral and SouthEastern would create a

powerhouse of a railway. Further north things are less clear. The sprawling empires of

THE FALLING PUBLIC RAIL SUBSIDY

Central Trains, North Western Trains, Scotrail and Northern Spirit could be broken up to create commuter hubs around Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow/Edinburgh and Leeds/ Bradford. The longer services could be handed to other fran-

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226.4

391.5

[125.5]

121.3

423.8

107.3

chises or set up as heavily subsidised public service railways.

A spokeswoman for National Express, which runs Scotrail, Central, Midland Mainline, Silverlink and Gatwick Express said there were dangers in recreating the old BR regional structure. "Making franchises work has to be the remit now. It's all about performance, per

formance performance." First Group said the industry was keeping an open mind. 'I think John Prescott is looking for ideas as to how franchises could be restructured.

For successful franchises the question is how to resolve under-investment. Both GNER which runs the East Coast main line between London and Edinburgh, and Thameslink from Bedford to Brighton, have increased passengers. But both are restricted by a lack of train paths and rolling stock shortage

GNER wants to convert its seven-year contract to a 15-year franchise in exchange for buying up to 10 new tilting trains and building three new stations. Go-Ahead, owner of Thameslink, wants a new deal to take account of the work to create the expanded Thameslink 2000 network by2006. Commercial director Chris

Moves said: "We hope the Government will recognise there's a hell of a lot of work being done that would result in a much better railway. But Rome was not built in a day."

ding for a PFI contract. The

chief secretary to the Treasury

Alan Milburn yesterday said

that smaller PFI projects need-

ed "greater strategic planning"

In his first public pro-

### **Budget** should cut red tape, says CBI

BY DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor** 

THE CHANCELLOR must use his Budget on 9 March to cut back the increasing burden of regulation on business, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

Its Budget submission to Gordon Brown said recent legislation such as the introduction of the minimum wage and the working time directive had cost businesses £5bn a year.

Sir Clive Thompson, CBI president, said: "This Budget comes at a critical point in the economic cycle with the UK facing a major slowdown in

growth. He added: "Many in the business community urgently need a confidence boost with a clear declaration of no increases in business taxation. We want changes aimed at reducing

bureaucratic burdens." The Trades Union Congress in its Budget submission tomorrow, is expected to focus instead on the need for extra public spending to boost flagging areas of the economy, and for

lower interest rates. Its call will come as the Bank of England's accordary policy committee ends its monthly interest rate meeting. Most City pundits expect a further quarter point reduction to 5.75 per

The British Chambers of Commerce backed the CBTs attack on red tape vesterday. Ian Peters, deputy director general of the BCC, said: "Genuine efforts must be made in the forthcoming Budget to reduce dramatically the amount of regulation."

In its submission, the CBI called on the Government to avoid introducing any big new initiatives. Its plea follows on the heels of recent changes in corporate taxation and the planned introduction of measures such as the minimum wage and working families tax credit that employers will have to implement.

Like the BCC earlier in the week, the CBI also urged the Chancellor to introduce a number of measures to encourage enterprise and innovation. It proposes a full one-year tax break for investment spending by small and medium sized companies.

Other measures on the CBTs entrepreneurship shopping list include tax credits for research and development spending by smaller firms, a reform of capital gains tax to encourage "serial entrepreneurs", and a higher ceiling on the amount of share options employees can be granted free of income tax.

Some proposals for stimulating high-technology start-ups were flagged in the pre-Budget report, but the employers' organisation would like to see more help for all small firms.

economist, said: "A lot of good ideas have been put forward. What is vital is that they are acted on in this Budget."

# Reckitt chief gets £900,000 payoff

RNON SANKEY has stepped own as chief executive of leckitt & Colman, the Dettol nd Harpic household products roup, less than three months fler the company issued a hock profits warning.

Mr Sankey, who has been hief executive for seven years, ill depart with immediate efct. He will be paid more than 00,000 in compensation for ss of office, while his share opans are worth an additional 100,000. The group's shares

BY NIGEL COPE **Associate City Editor** 

rose 50.5p to 870p on the news. Michael Turrel, operations director, has been named as acting chief executive until a full -time successor can be found. Analysts said the departure

could leave the group vulnerable to a takeover, with Unigate, Colgate-Palmolive, and Procter & Gamble leading the field of potential bidders. Without a chief executive you become vulnerable to an approach," said Peter Cartwright at Williams de Broe. Reckitt & Colman denied

that Mr Sankey had left as a result of last November's profits warning which was blamed on poor trading in Far East markets and de stocking in Ameri-

But it admitted that the warning had "resulted in the board sitting down and deciding where it wanted to go," a spokesman said. "The directors decided a

different approach was needed." Mr Sankey was responsible for a major re-structuring at Reckitt & Colman. He acquired the L&F household products di-

vision from Eastman Kodak in 1995 in a deal that included Lysol, the top brand cleaner and disinfectant. In turn he sold Colmans mustard and increasingly focused on emerging mar-

Alan Dalby, chairman, said Mr Sankey had been vital to the company's growth.

### PFI schemes may be pooled THE GOVERNMENT is consid-

ering plans to pool together different projects under the private finance initiative (PFT) in an effort to speed up the development of smaller schemes.

Under the plans, local authorities will be urged to group together projects below £20m in order to make them more attractive to private investors.

In a radical departure from past PFI schemes, local councils will also be allowed to put together schemes from differ-

By Francesco Guerrera

ent sectors such as hospitals. schools and roads, offering contractors the chance to bid for regeneration work in an entire

under the PFI - the Government programme to foster private-public investment - are shunned by the private sector because their small size does not justify the high cost of bid-

nouncement since taking over At present a number of small infrastructure schemes

the PFI brief from the disgraced Geoffrey Robinson, Mr Milburn said: "We have hundreds of potential deals but they are pretty small scale, between £5m and £20m, and we need to make them more at-

Kate Barker, the CBI's chief

hanks old to Shuye 1235

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REVIEW

YOUR MONEY - EVERY SATURDAY

SUNDAY - WITH SPORT AND BUSINESS

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# Tarmac bows to City pressure and demerges

TARMAC, one of Britain's largest contractors, yesterday bowed to City pressure and announced plans to split its building materials and construction poerations into two separate

Sir Neville Simms, the Tarmac chief executive, said the break-up of the 96-year-old group would help to develop the

company's flagging share price. Tarmac stock has underperformed most of its rivals because the low-margin construction business dampened the prospects of the highly-profitable building materials oper-

By Francesco Guerrera

"Having two different businesses in the same group is con-

fusing. They were just not val-ued satisfactorily," Sir Neville said. The shares closed up 4.25p at 117p yesterday, as the market speculated that the building materials part of the group could be targeted by Tarmac's arch-rival Aggregate Industries. Talks over a £1.8bn merger

between the two companies col-

lapsed at the end of last year

after a bitter row over the man-

agement structure of the group. Aggregate Industries (AI) was not available for comment yes terday, but Sir Neville said that a takeover was "impossible" because Tarmac building materials was bigger than AL

will be the larger of the two. City analysts said the company was expected to have a market value Under yesterday's plans, Tarmac would spilt its two main divisions into two separately quoted groups in the second half Tarmac building materials of the year, through a distribu-

of around £880m - 80 per cent of the group's existing capitali-

The building materials

group, which last year had sales of £1.2bm and profits of £1.42m,

one of the leading players in the UK market and also has a bstantial operation in the US and Central Europe.

The construction and civil engineering group, which posted 229m profit on turnover of £1.6bn, would be valued at

The unit, which has 13,000 employees, has moved away

focus on higher-margin work such as privately financed pro-

Sir Neville said the demerg er was not expected to create job losses among the group's 23,000

The company said that the management structure of the

two groups had not been

### Tay in row over changing directors' contracts

BY FRANCESCO GUERRIERA

TAY HOMES, the troubled house-builder was plunged into a furi-ous row yesterday after it emerged that two top executives signed new contracts doubling their notice period after rebuff ing an attempt by a rebel investor to change the board.

The Leeds-based company which is facing a shareholder vote to oust the board at the end of the month - angrily denied suggestions that the chairman Norman Stubbs and the chief executive John Swanson had decided to increase the notice period for fear of being forced out by shareholders.

The length of the period is a crucial element in determining compensation packages for ousted directors. Outgoing executives normally receive a lump sum based on their annual salary multiplied by their notice period.

According to documents seen by the Independent, Mr Swanson and Mr Norman Stubbs signed the contracts extending their notice from six months to a year on 10 November.

This was around two weeks after a meeting with Sunley, a family-owned housebuilder with a 10 per cent stake in Tay. At the meeting. Sunley proposed the appointment of two of its nominees to the board in an attempt to improve Tay's performance and revive its flagging share

The board's rejection of the proposal led Sunley, backed by Philips & Drew, Tay's largest inestor, to call the meeting to oust the existing management.

Mr Swanson yesterday said the changes to the notice period had been agreed in June by the company's remuneration committee. He said the contracts were not signed until November because lawyers had taken a long time to draw them

"The insinuation that we changed the contracts as a result of our meeting (with Sunley)... is tantamount to absolute nonsense," he said.

# Shanks sold to **US** buyer for £235m

ONE OF BRITAIN'S oldest and By NIGEL COPE best known bathroom equipment manufacturers change hands yesterday when Blue Circle Industries sold Armitage Shanks for £235m.

The buyer is American Standard, the US group whose brands include Ideal Standard, Trevi showers and the Sottini range of upmarket bath prod-

The deal creates a combined group with sales of more than £200m and 3,300 workers employed at 15 UK sites.

However, it could be the subject of a competition inquiry as the combined group will control 35 per cent of the ceramic bathrorm products markets, such pasins and toilets, a share well ahead of rivals such as Twyfords-Doulton, owned by Caradon and Shires. The group will also have 18 per cent of the acrylic bath market.

Ideal Standard said it was confident there would not be any regulatory problems as the new group's share of the wider European market would be relatively small and imports into the UK account for 25 per cent of the domestic market.

**Associate City Editor** 

the two manufacturers were a good fit. Ideal Standard, which is the world leader, is strong in

Armitage Shanks, the UK market leader, is strong in the commercial sector with a customer base that includes hospitals, hotels and prisons.

the domestic bathroom sector.

Roger Cooper, managing director of Ideal Standard in the UK. said: "We are now number one in every sector of the bathroom market here, and the two businesses fit very well. There will be a review of synergies and best practices before any other decisions are made."

comment on possible job losses or plant closures, However, Ideal Standard's factories They generate sales of £85m from 1,100 staff at three sites. Armitage Shanks sales are £120m from 2,200 staff at 12 sites including five in Staffordshire.

The deal follows an intense auction process after Blue Circle put Armitage Shanks up for sale in October. The company The American company said will use the proceeds to en-



The company would not Roger Cooper, Ideal Standard's UK managing director: The new company will be the UK market leader in ceramic bathroom products

hance its core operations in building products, such as ceachieve higher productivity. ment, and in heating equipment, including Potterton boilers and Myson heaters.

Armitage Shanks was founded in 1817 in Armitage in Staffordshire as a maker of earthenware products including pots and pipes. In the 1860s it was acquired by the Reverend Edward Johns.

Blue Circle bought the com-

number

pany in 1980. In the year to December 1997 the group recorded profits of £24.6m on sales of £174m.

The deal will be one of the last corporate acts of Blue Circle's chief executive Keith Orrell-Jones, who steps down in July. He will leave a cash pile for his successor, Richard Haythornthwaite.

Blue Circle shares closed 20.25p higher at 337.75p.

	COMPANY RESULTS								
Name	Turnover (4)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	X-div			
ARM Soldings (F)	42.268m (26.580m)	9.423m (4.526m)	12.5p (7.1p)	- (-)					
Crest Micholson (F)	465,4m (353,0m)	28.1((20.5(1))	16,60p (11,75p)	4.75p (3.75p)	06.04.99	08.03.99			
Eurodis Electron (I)	146.302m (152.499m)	3.403m (3.611m)	*2.79p (3.44p)	2.15p (2.15p)	06.04.99	15.02,99			
Independent Energy (I)	88.22m(22,78m)	0.707m (-0.464m)	2.9p (-2.8p)	- (-)		-			
Internet Technology (F)	11.012m (3.97m)	0.055m(-1.96m)	0.12p (-8.61p)	4-1					
Morthamber (I)	140.851m (149.934m)	4.442m(4.261m)	8.6p (8.4p)	1.50 (-)	04.05.99	06.04.99			
Hocognition Systems: Gra-		-2.260m (-2.256m)	-6.3p (-8.1p)	- (-)					
SCI Entertainment Group	(f) 3.262m (2.224m)	0.506m(-1,027m)	3.95p (-7.26p)	-(-)					
Skillagroup (F)	208.4m (377.0m)	14.4m (-16.3m)	12.5p (-23.3p)	5.0p (4.2p)	88.05.99	12.04.99			
(F) - Head (G) - tetesten	(O) - Clearledy (SP) - Split I	Period (N) - Nine Months		* Adjusted					

### Bonds plunge on Japan debt fears

L CRE WAS further upheaval in the Japanese financial markets yesterday as bonds plunged and the yen surged amid grow-

Yields on long-dated Japanese bonds hit their highest level for 18 months after Japan's finance minister appeared to quash market hopes of govern-

Kiichi Miyazawa said he was not concerned about recent rises in yields, been driven by concerns about chronic oversupply in the bond market.

wa's remarks dispelled speculation that the government could move to cap yields, and prompted some investors to dump substantial holdings of bonds on to the market.

said: "There's potential for JGB mese bond) yields to rise further ahead of the fiscal year

markets, where the dollar fell by almost 2 per cent against the yen, its biggest one-day drop since mid-November.

BY LEA PATERSON

### IN BRIEF record Vardy buys 12

car dealerships REG VARDY, the acquisitive

motor dealer based in Sunderland, has bought a further 12 dealerships in the west of Scotland, North-east

#### of homes England, Yorkshire, the Midlands and the South-east vestors would move money into ing fears over government debt. Japan to take advantage of the BY CLIFFORD GERMAN from Caledonia Motor for higher bond yields, and the dollar fell to 112.77 yen, down from THE CHAIRMAN of Crest In the six months to 31 114.96 in late trade on Monday. Nicholson, John Matthews, yes-October Vardy sold 66,715 Technical factors relating to terday reported a good perforcars - an increase of 32 per mance for 1998 when the the Japanese fiscal year-end cent - and lifted the value of ment intervention in the market. on 31 March and mounting USupmarket housebuilder sold a sales by 38 per cent to £567m and pre-tax profits by 46 per cent to £12.3m. The Time 400-2c Family PC Our promise Japan trade tensions also unrecord 2,210 units, nearly 60 per cent of them in the prosperous package comes complete dermined the dollar. to you South-east and a similar pro Eisuke Sakakibara, a leading with powerful 400MHz official in Japan's finance minportion on the brownfield sites PC, printer, scanner, Cadbury job cuts istry known as "Mr Yen" bevoured by government policy office software suite CADBURY SCHWEPPES is to Turnover rose by 32 per cent Analysts said Mr Miyazacause of the impact of his and much more for shed 300 of the 4,000 jobs remarks on the Japanese curprofit before tax was up by 37 just £799+VAT. per cent to £28.1m and earnings rency, highlighted the trade isthrough voluntary sues at a conference in Tokyo. per share rose 41 per cent to redundancies at its He warned that trade rela-16.6p, marginally ahead of mar-Bournville chocolate factory Buy the EXEC tions with the US, already ket forecasts. in a cost-cutting exercise. model now and strained, could deteriorate fur-Average prices rose nearly Apple Computer is cutting pay nothing until 450 jobs at its plant in Cork, Michael Derks of Nomura 20 per cent, with half the imther over the course of the year the year 2000, with our provement coming from the following a decision to No Deposit, Interest Free tion that the Japanese authorexpensive central London flats transfer production of the Option! or pay only £29.64 per IMAC model to a subities could let the yen rise offered by Nicholson Estates, month\* on our Low APR Plan. the specialist division set up two gainst the dollar to placate contractor in South Korea. The surge in yields had a knock-on effect in the currency years. It made its first contrithe US. Tunnel buys back One analyst said: "The feelbution to profits last year, and has already replenished its ing is that the US will want a EUROTUNNEL, the Angloweaker dollar, although no one portfolio of sites. French Channel Tunnel Operating margins on housebuilding rose from 11.4 per cent to a satisfactory 12 per cent, the property division returned to profit and the reduced contribution from the has suggested that in the US company, yesterday bought inistration." Epson Stylus 300, 720 dp colour inidet printer (RRP 2119), back £134m of its own bonds. 8.4Gb Hard disk • 8Mb ATI 3D AGPx2 Graphics which are trading at a deep 32x CD-ROM Drive - 3D PCI Wavetable sound discount to face value, for 15" digital colour screen - 128K cache just £38m. The deal will save Eurotunnel £5.5m a year in All standard fastures including Windows 98, Keyboen Mouse, Video trainer, Recovery diek & Arabinus All software backup CDe included - Fully Winds & construction division was more financial charges. than accounted for by a £1.3m provision on a doubtful debt. Gilts are top 188-2 DVD 3D Model: Includes Intest AMD KS-2 3D Half the 110 flats in the con-UK GILTS were among the 400MHz processor, 3D NOWI technology, 4x DVD-ROM ditine and larger 10.1 Gb hard disk 2599 Plus VAT & del. bymanitarian work for Sierra Leone verted spice warehouse oppobest performing financial site the Tower of London have =£1065.70 total price inc. VAT & del. assets last year, according to been sold, including 30 sales in EXEC Models: Include 5 top games, joystick, gameped, microphone, and 13 edna CO biles for just 639 Plus VAT=£116.33 Extra. Hong Kong. The land bank for immediate development has a new study, easily outstripping equities. Gilts outperformed equities by 11 been increased by almost 10 per codes 400-2; 190; 400-2 (100-30-32) 400-2; 190; 190; 400-2 (100-3) per cent in 1998, according cent to 6,329 units, or three to the armual Barclays years' supply at current sales. Capital Equity-Gilt study. Two Special Pinnice C w EXEC which coly Crest is banking heavily on Quickly process my donation of sustained expansion. Net borrowings almost doubled to □€500° □€250° □€75 □€50 Free Internet Pay Nothing Dutil Feb 2000 277.3m and the group has been gearing up to fund the devel-opment of the Claybury Hospi-INTERNET Technology I enclose a cheque/CAF voucher to UNA Trust for £ Group is to follow Dixons and Oabit my Vise/Mastercard/CAF card £\_ Tesco by launching a free tal site at Chigwell, where 770 homes will be built between internet service in the next Freephone 0800 316 2 317 2000 and 2004. Analysts are Blackall, ITG's chief forecasting a more modest growth in profits to £30.8m and executive, yesterday said the we're on your side company was in talks with a earnings of 18.2p a share. The number of media and retail shares, which bottomed at 81p groups about launching the in October, rose 3p to 124.5p.

THE INDEPENDENT Wednesday 3 February 1998

Take OVE

MAIN MOVERS FALLS -7,73 -8.28 -6.50 51.50 -4.82 TOP 20 VOLUMES at 5pm FTSE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR **¥**THE INDEPENDENT THE INDEPENDENT For all the latest financial and market information call The Independent Teleshare 24-hour access to UK share prices in real-time Call 09001 201 200 Portfolio Service Call 0870 600 4200 All 09001 calls cost 50p per minute 195 : 04 . 31 6051 27 365 : 10 : 56 : 20 II 3 . 7 7020 : 60 : 21 : 151 578 : 486 2615 : 55 : 25 : 77 - 54 : 75 9825 x280 07 654 697 1955 x280 07 654 697 1955 x20 11 124 7690 6820 x70 1 124 7690 7755 325 03 793 1014 1375 00 05 551 792 2310 25 24 369 729 13425 00 05 554 338 415 40 29 115 1430 425 x45 70 285 265 35 74 983 1774 1170 00 127 111 290 1860 25 26 624 4736 350 x00 83 141 4412 108 Yorks Gp 209 Yorks Cato 73 Jatelstons source: Bloomberg

**Upbeat** 

prospects for chip

designer

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

INTERNET STOCKS may be the

flavour of the moment. But in re-

cent months canny investors

have been ignoring the hype and

paying more attention to ARM.

the British computer chip de-

signer that is taking the semi-

Yesterday shares in ARM

surged to a new high of 1,825p.

up 100p, as the Cambridge-

based group beat analysts' fore-

casts with a 59 per cent jump in

revenues to £42.3m for the year

to December. Pre-tax profits

The shares have trebled in

value since ARM floated on the

London and Nasdaq exchanges

last April, taking the company's

ARM designs sophisticated

processor chips that use rela-

tively little power, making them

Clups based on the group's

designs can be found in Psion or-

ganisers, mobile phones and

portable games consoles such

ARM does not make the

chips itself but licenses the de-

signs to large manufacturers.

in the process, the company

as Sony's new Pocketstation.

perfect for use in battery-pow-

ered machines,

market value close to 2900m.

more than doubled to 29.4m.

conductor world by storm.

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Karang Kabupatèn

# Takeover talk takes mid caps to dizzy heights

AS BLUE CHIPS dillied and dallied the long neglected second liners enjoyed another exhilarating session, spurred

by an array of takeover stories. Footsie managed a mere 0.6 points gain to 6,013. The mid cap index soared 93.5 to 5.215.3 and the small cap rose 15.2 to 2.169.8.

What has been dubbed the middle-rank momentum produced the extraordinary sight of more than 20 per cent of the mid cap constituents achieving gains of more than 5 per

Top of the pile was Weir, the engineering group that has long been one of the stock market's takeover favourites.

As if to prove that even the most bewhiskered old bid chestnuts eventually fall, Weir confirmed an approach, likely to be from a US group, and consequently soared 62.5p to 294.5p. The shares have joined in the sudden rush to climb aboard the engineering bandwagon, advancing from less than 200p in the past few days.

The boys in dark glasses who were pointing to a Weir hid on Monday were behind a

AVAILEON, a little contract caterer, is hungry for expansion. Under the direction of Mira Hyams-Meme it is picking no new np-market contracts, including London's St. James's Park and Leamington Spa's Pump Rooms, although profits

are unlikely this year. But, if deals continue to flow and St. James's is as lucrative as hoped, profits could be achieved next year, accompanied by a dividend. The shares are a depressed 2.5p.

10.5p jump to 74p in hardpressed cable and construc-

The company looks vulnerable and with the aggressive Wassall group sitting on 9.3 per cent it is not difficult to get a bid story swirling around the market and provoking a remarkable 18.5 million share turnover.

The latest rumour suggested a 90p a share bid from an unlikely source, General Electric Co. The excitement prompted the City's takeover panel to order a statement from Wassall which, maintaining the air of uncertainty, produced the following gem -Wassall continues to monitor its investment and this may or may not lead to an offer for

Engineer BBA was another metal basher on the bid con- High Court but dealings in the veyor belt, jumping 58p to 454.5p. Others higher included Meggitt, 21.5p to 171p; TT,

19p to 175p; and TL 40p to 410p. Builders, too, caught the takeover bug. They have been encouraged by a recent round of top-of-the-range profit performances and hopes of lower interest rates.

IIII

But it is the expectation of further consobdation that is providing much of the current husiasm. Berkeley, the up-market house builder, has rade no secret of the attraction of Fairview, the builder MARKET REPORT



demerged from Hillsdown Holdings in October

Berkeley, strong on Monday as stories of a strike circulated, rose a further 11p to 503.5p and Fairview added 80 to 95.5p. Barratt Developments

rose 27p to 250.5p and Beazer, another takeo: er candidate, 16p to 172p. Footsie engineers were

also prominent but not strong enough to give the index much impetus. Still, there was strong two-way trading with the market enjoying yet another heavy trading session with turnover topping 1.2 bil-

The opening weeks of this year have represented what is probably the longest and busiest run of market trading. Day after day turnover has topped 1 billion, a relatively rare event last year. With the computerised

share price, pence

J FMAMJ J A5 OND J F

the official figures indicate.

and the ordinary shares edged

bid, rising 33p to 493p, follow-

ing meetings with analysts.

ahead 12.5p to 2,937.5p.

450-

400

tomorrow.

BBA

shareholder. order book recording trades as SCH is run by Peter a single transaction as op-Rigby, whose family is reputed to be worth more SHARE SPOTLIGHT

than £400m. He could feel the time is right to descend on JBA, which fell to 50p last month on a loss warning. **Around Christmas 1997** the shares touched 1,257.5p.

climbed 18.5p to 281p. But

Kingfisher suffered an early

fall when its Castorama bome

improvements off-shoot failed

to gain the expected place in

the Paris CAC-40 index. The

shares later recovered, ending

10p higher at 635p. Banks remained firm on

merger hopes with National

Westminster Bank up 41p to

1,196p. The outstanding star of the sector was Allied Irish

Banks - at one time up 95p.

The shares, in busy trading,

closed 73p ahead at 1,262.5p as

stories swirled of a Lloyds

TSB or Deutsche bid. Price

was said to be 1,500p. AIB re-

fused to comment. Bank of

Ireland also joined the fun, up

27.5p to 1,397.5p. BSkyB lost 29.5p to 439.5p

as pressure grew that it

should cede some of its TV

football rights and hesitation

mounted ahead of interim fig-

Telecoms took a breather

Hanson, with Schroders

with Colt Telecom down 51p

positive, jumped 52.75p to

466p. Williams, the security

group, led the Footsie leader

JBA, the software group,

unquoted Specialist

near 3 per cent

added 25p to 142.5p as the

Computer Holdings let it

be known that it was a

at 1.290.5p.

board, gaining 43.5p to 372.5p. Reckitt & Colman, on the Vernon Sankey, jumped 50.5p to 870p as some wondered whether the household products group looked particularly vulnerable to a takeover strike.

posed to a double entry under Iceland, the retailer, the old market making system, warmed 10.5p to 261p as Credit would appear that volume it Lyonnais made positive has increased even more than noises, drawing attention to its home delivery service. Last Mind you, odd trades conyear's profits are expected to tinue to appear on the order be £55.5m, up from £43.4m.

book. Burmah was the subject Profit warnings took their of some strange inputs with inevitable toll. James R the opening trade a 12,000 Knowles slumped 21p to 44p deal at 848.5p; the last recordafter the construction coned transaction was 1,353p sultant warned of a profits hit, shares at 668p. For the record and Staffware plunged 70p to Burmah closed up 3p at 790p. 190p once the software group The BTR/Siebe merger said escalating costs would hurt year's results.

was belatedly cleared by the Lynx, the computer group. new engineering complex, BTR Siebe, will not occur until

3.5p to 45p, against a 181.75p

SEAQ VOLUME: 1.2bn SEAQ TRADES: 78,559 Rolls-Royce, with Henderson Crosthwaite positive, GILTS: 116.53 -0.25

www.bloomberg.com/uk

INVESTMENT

# Independent Energy plans £200m listing

By Francesco Guerrera

INDEPENDENT ENERGY, the fast-growing power group, is planning a £200m listing on the main London stock market in the summer in an attempt to boost its UK shareholder base.

The news came as the group announced its first interim profit and hinted at plans to buy a gas company to take advantage of deregulation in the gas and electricity market.

The managing director John

Sulley yesterday said that the move from the junior Alternative Investment Market, to be finalised in June, would give Independent "access" to a "wider portfolio" of investors. At present, almost 80 per cent of the electricity company's share-holders come from the US, where the group has a secondary listing on Nasdaq, the market for fast-growing companies.

Despite a six-fold increase in the share price since the 1996 float, many UK institutions have been prevented from buying independent shares because it is quoted on AIM, he said. His comments came as independent reported a £707,000 pretax profit in the first six months of the year

against a £464,000 loss in 1997. The Solihull-based company, which specialises in supplying electricity to business users, benefited from a sharp rise in the number of customers during

the period. As the electricity supply mar-

services and training compa-

ny, is preparing to spend as

much as £70m on acquisitions

in the next few months in an

attempt to beef up its

information technology con-

David Southworth, Skills-

group's executive chairman,

said vesterday the group was

looking at a number of privately

give Skillsgroup a presence in

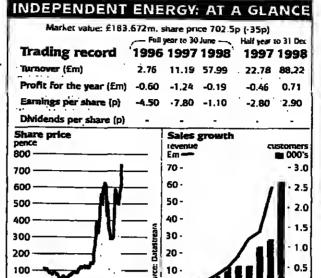
the fast-growing market for

designing Internet-based com-

sultancy business.

puter systems.

SKILLSGROUP, the computer BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA



ket was opened up to competition, Independent gained customers in areas dominated by Regional Electricity Companies

The company has secured contracts worth £400m and has 40,000 small businesses and 2,500 larger customers on its books. However, City analysts believe that the test of Independent's success will be in the race for domestic consumers.

The domestic market is being deregulated and should be free by June. Independent already has some 6,000 domestic ac-

panies in that area we are in-

terested in," Mr Southworth

However, he stressed the

company did not want to be in

"me-too" information technol-

ogy services, such as imple-

menting enterprise planning

software for major companies.

after a lengthy period in which

In the past year, the com-

it has shrunk dramatically.

An acquisition would be

Skillsgroup in £70m buying spree

£162m.

acquisitions.

years. It plans to bolster its presence among domestic users by buying a gas supplier and marketing a "dual fuel offer". Mr Sulley said the company want-

ed to spend around £10m. However, the success of Independent's foray in the domestic market will depend on whether its lower cost base will enable it to slash prices below the levels charged by Recs.

Unlike its rivals, Independent has managed to keep a tight grip on fixed costs by outsourcing its customer billing and service operations to Vertex, a unit counts and is aiming to reach the of United Utilities. Independent 400,000 mark over the next few has paid £3m upfront and will

ing arm, and Acuma, which in-

In the year to last Novem-

stalls large computer servers.

ber, pre-tax profits from

continuing operations jumped

36 per cent to £12.2m on

revenues up 16 per cent to

Mr Southworth said oper-

ating profits were expected to

grow by 20 per cent this year

However, be predicted that

the final quarter of the year



John Sufley: Prepared to pay £10m for gas supplier

give Vertex an additional £15 per customer, well below the £50-80m paid by some Recs to set up the complex IT systems needed to cope with the deregulated mar-

The company's ability to generate around 10 per cent of its own electricity, rather than buying it all on the market, also helps to boost margins.

These two factors should lead to lower prices, although some analysts remain sceptical on Independent's chances of penetrating the Recs' fiefdoms.

The stock underlined this uncertainty yesterday, down 35p to close at 702.5p. They are now on 35 times this year's earnings forecast at £7m. Given the uncertainties over deregulation and the recent heady run, there is better short-term value else-

The City responded posi-

One analyst pointed out

tively to the results, driving the

that a large chunk of Skills-

group's revenues comes from

reselling computer hardware

rather than services, high-

lighting the need for an ac-

However, he added that on

a multiple of just 17-times ex-

shares up 3.5p to 236.5p.

to concentrate on QA its train- hold before the end of the

millennium.

quisition.

#### has signed up an impressive array of names. Last year Hewlett Packard, the US giant. and Matsushita and Toshiba, the Japanese groups, signed up for licenses. ARM also linked up with Intel, the chip giant.

Around 50m ARM-designed chips were shipped last year, compared to just 10m in 1997. Since the beginning of the year. the company has signed up another four licensees.

But Robin Saxby, ARM's chief executive, is aiming higher. "There are 150 semiconductor companies in the world and only 30 are licensees," he says. Ultimately, he wants every electronics group to license ARM's technology as well.

According to City analysts, ARM's revenues are set to grow sharply over the next few years as demand for mobile computing increases. "They are in abright time," one says.

pected 1999 earnings the And even though ARM is shares were still good value now valued at 21-times last pany has sold most of its dis- was likely to be tough as compared to the rest of the in- year's revenues, experts are tribution businesses in order companies put projects on formation technology sector. still positive on the shares.

### Poacher turned PEOPLE AND

"There are one or two com-

SAM JAFFA must be keeping his bead down in the staff canteen over at Pricewater-

Maxwell's auditor.

Price Waterhouse...

Twin studies

THE BZW Equity-Gilt Study has given birth to twins.

Coopers went on to merge

with Price Waterhouse to form

PwC. Coincidentally Mr Jaffa's

next chapter in the his book is

on "BCCI - the bank of crack,

cocaine and ice". The corrupt

bank was, of course, audited by

gamekeeper

houseCoopers. The PwC spokesman penned a lively tome, Great Financial Scandals, just before be switched careers from being a BBC reporter to accountancy PR man a couple of years ago. The book has a particularly

surged 23.5p to 213.5p as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson set a 350p target. Daily Mail & General **SCI Entertainment firmed** Trust, the newspaper pub-

lisher, appears to be the most peak. The computer games likely to snap up the vacant group, which was back in profits in the first half of its current Footsie berth; the "A" shares were little changed at 3,196p year, is near to releasing its new Carmageddon game on all console formats. Interim profits were £506,000 against British Land, another a £1m-plus loss. Footsie contender, put in a late

**BUSINESS** 

By John WILLCOCK

For years and years BZW pumped out its comparative study on investment. Then CSFB bought the equity side of BZW, and the remains of the investment bank were lurid chapter on "The Robert renamed Barclays Capital. Maxwell Affair", including Both successor institutions lay Coopers & Lybrand's role as claim to the Gilt Study.

You might expect that the CSFB Equity-Gilt Study, published on Monday, would seek to be as different as possible to the Barclays Capital Equity-Gilt Study which was published yesterday.

Bizarrely, both sets of analysts compared notes informally - they do have neighbouring offices in Canary Wharf, after all - and have come up with identical beadline numbers. Both say that for 1998 gilts' real returns rose by

21.7 per cent, whereas equity real returns were up by 10.6 per Sadly, there is still no word from Michael Hughes, now at

Barings Asset Management, who for many years headed up the original study at BZW. Who knows, it could be triplets yet.

### Big bang

COLCHESTER nearly got Britain's first ever drive-in stockbrokers yesterday, courtesy of a runaway lorry.

Jeff Metzger and Nick Brook of brokers Walker Cripps Weddle Beck were pondering the fate of the engineering sector when they heard an "almighty bang". They ran outside to discov-

had demolished part of their received". Georgian colonnade. Mr Brook went to extract the driver, only PFI, I'd say. to discover no-one there - the chap had parked the lorry at the

Metzger with commendable of publishing.

sang froid.

### No PFI input

ALAN MILBURN, the new Chief Secretary to the Treasury, made his first keynote speech in the job yesterday after tak-ing over responsibility for the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) from the former paymastergeneral, Geoffrey Robinson.

Mr Milburn happily sang a hymn of praise to the Government's commitment to the initiative, standing beside a large projection screen in the QE II Centre in Westminster.

As be ended his address the words "Alan Milburn" faded from the screen, to be replaced dent.co.uk.

er an overturned lorry that by the phrase: "No input Just about spot on for the

### **Watch Informa**

We thought he might just be STEPHEN WARSHAW is in no in a rush to get some Weir mood for hanging around now Group shares ahead of the that he has arrived at Informa announcement," quipped Mr Group as the director in charge

> The former Reed man is determined to weld together the business information activities of LLP and IBC, which merged to form Informa in autumn last year.

Mr Warshaw, 50, wants to grow the telecommunications information side of the business, and get as many of the traditional business titles, such as

Lloyd's List, online. Where the company still has a small presence, such as in biomedical or pharmaceutical publishing, it may go on the acquisitioo trail, he says. Informa will also be looking to buy businesses in the US.

E-mail: j.willcock@indepen

_	7	ORFIG	NEX	HANGE	RATES		
Country	Sperline	month	3 mont	Dollar h Spot	1 month	3 month	Euro
UK	1.0000 2.5681 19.985 58.588 2.4857 10.802 1.4524 6.6353 9.527 2.8406 464,48 12.737 1.1438 2812.1 184.16 6.2461 16.590 3.2006	2.5664 19.9667 2.4842 10.783 1.4493 8.6176 9.507 2.9347 466.14 12.734 12.734 13.1415 2806.3 183.37 6.3861 3.1940	2.564 19.94 58.22 2.481 10.74 1.43 8.581 9.46 2.822 469.8 12.74 11.74 181.7 6.596 3.012 12.51	2 12.158 3 35.644 3 1.5123 6 6.5715 6 5.7156 8 5.7960 9 1.7281 4 282.58 9 7.7492 9 0.6959 112.04 10.0930 10.0930 7 0.5451 6 12.158	0.6088 1.5625 12.157 35.596 1.5125 6.5650 1.1333 5.2466 5.7882 1.7258 283.77.7525 1.4390 1708.6 111.64 3.8880 1.9446 1.8351 1.6038	0.6094 1.5628 12.153 35.482 1.5124 6.5490 1.1371 5.2297 1.7692 1.435 1.7092 1.436 1.0.76 4.0200	0.6885 1.7682 13.7682 13.7683 1.7637 1.0000 5.9457 1.9558 31.7701 0.7876 1.9568
Norway Portugal Saudi Arabu Saudi Arabu Saudi Africa Spain Sweden Swerzerland US	12.470 291.17 6.1647	12 489 290.57 6.1685 2.7588 9.9685 241.15 12.852 2.3110	289.3 6.178 2.743 10.135 240.1 12.81 2.294	6 177.14 5 3.7505 5 1.6843 1 6.0175 4 147.02 8 7.8340	176.91 3 7555 1.6796 6.0690 146.82 7.8246 1.4070	176,34 3.7653 1.6720 6.1765 146,35 7,8116 1.3983	200.48 4.2446 1.9061 6.8103 166.386 8.8661 1.5970 1.1317
		_	.co.ci	OT RAT	ES		
			Dollar	Country	Steri	ing	Dollar
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Caech Rep Egypt Ghana Hungary India	5 6215 3879 1 361.09 69,841		3,4200 2360.0 219,65 42,490 4775.0	Qatar Russia South Korea Taiwan Thailand	38462	.6 .8 ?1	23400.0 1168.00 32.257 36.600

			_							
				INTER	EST	RAT	ES			
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Base Europea	n Cent	00% Stal Bay	nk Di	enmark iscount	3.50	)%	Disc	ount	0.50%	
O/N Mar	ginal4.	50%	U:	5 rime	7.75	eq.		zerlan Dunt	d 1.00%	
O/N Faci Repo		20% 20%	D	ecount	4.50	νъ		bard	3.13%	
Canada				ed Funds	4.69	<b>/%</b>				
Prime	6.7	75%	51	wêden						
				BONE	O YI	ELD	5			
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Australia	4.60	0.00		-0.02		-0.01	4.88		5.17	0.07
Belgium	2.96	0.00	2.83	0.00		-0.07			3.91 5.03	0.01 0.04
Canada	4.72	0.01	4.89 3.00	0.01 0.02		0.03	4.90 3.27 -		3.69	0.04
Euro	3.09	0.01	3.00 2.84	0.02		0.04			3.79	0.01
France Germany	3.09	0.01	3.00	0.02		0.00			3.69	0.01
	2.92	0.00	2.94	0.00		0.03			3.93	0.02
icaly	0.29	0.00	0.40	0.04		0.07	1.57	0.19	2.39	0.32
lapan N'iands	3.09	0.00	3.00	0.02	3.01	0.04	3.33	80.0	3.81	0.02
Ni lanos Soain	2.95	0.05		-0.03		-0.01	3.38	0.00	3.92	0.01
opam Sweden	3.61	0.00	3.24	0.01	3.28	0.01	3.48		4.01	0.05
Sweden 57and	1.25	0.00	1.50	0.01	1.58	0.01	1.93	0.02	2,43	0.00
UK Dikan	9.35	0.00	5.50	0.00	4.82	0.02	4.22 -		4.14	0.01
US	4.41	0.11	4.36	0.21	4.68	-0.03	4.67 -	0.03	4.79	-0.03
			MON	VEY M	ARK	ET F	RATES			
	-	Ove	night	1 week	1 m	onth	3 month			
		Bid	Offer	Bid Offer			Bid Offer		Offer B	id VIII
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LIBOR				6 40 6.40			5.81 5.81		5.62 5.	375.50
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Yr Gilt	Mar-99	109.63	_			63 00
Serman Bund	Mar-99	117.11				
talian Bond	Mar-99	114.96	115.03	114.49	17089.00	44565.00
apan Govt Bd	Mar-99	127.15	127.20	126.71	4291.00	
Mith Sterling	Mar-98	94.39	94.42	94.38	17842.00	190756.00
	Jun- <del>99</del>	94.72	94.75		26771.00	193678.00
Mth Euribor	Feb-99	96.92	96.93	96.92	440.00	295.00
	Mar-99	96.96	96.99	96.96	31751.00	84266.00
	Apr-99	97.03			•••	
Mith Euroyen	Mar-99	99.38	:-			ac 700 an
Mith Euroswisa	Mar-99	98.67	98.67	88.61	8991.00	86788.00 47254.00
	Apr-99	98.57	98.58	98.51	7122.00	754.00
Mth Euro Libor		96.92		96.96	4662.00	163203.00
	Mar-99	96.96	96.98	90.90	4002.00	103203.00
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6000 134 2	28 172	30	240 29	318	359 40	427
6050 109 2		30	209 31	2 287		73 447
5100 89 2	27 228	30	188 34	1 262	406 34	7 471
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nd Metals 197	77=100 70=100	126.47 159.70	0.00	0.00 -0.04	168.79 191.03	-25.07 -16.40

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Copper A Lead	1415 1416		1443 497	1444 498	17 5	650700	4025
Nickel	494 495 4270 4280		4340	4345	60	105350 65532	25 54
Tin	5150 5160		5135	5140	.5	6845	.: 55
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# **SPORT**

'Mike Gibson was the complete footballer. He tackled like the crack of doom and could sniff a chance like a forest animal.

# McLaren talks a matchless game



THE BRIAN VINER INTERVIEW

FOR BILL MCLAREN, the nonpareil among television commentators is Peter Alliss. For many millions of others, it is McLaren himself, thairrepressible romantic from Hawick whose matchless ability to convey the excitement of a big rugby international will one day enable moist-eved old men to say to their grandchildren, of Barbarians v Australia in 1984, or of Scotland v Engiand in 1990: "Now that was an occasion that those of us who weren't there will never forget."

So what makes Bill McLaren a unique broadcaster? Is it the rolling Borders brogue, the incredible depth of knowledge, the intensive three-hour homework on the eve of the match, the silky turns of phrase? It is all of these, especially the turns of phrase. When I ask him to pick his all-time Lions team, he says that Mike Gibson, the great Irish centre, was "the most complete footballer I have ever seen, just a skinny fellow, but he tackled like the crack of doom, and he could sniff a scoring chance like a forest animal." There are novelists who sit poised over their keyboards for days on end, chain-smoking and smacking their foreheads, and still they can't produce similes like that.

And what of the other players in his Lions dream team? "Andy Irvine would be my full-back. Everyone else would say John Williams, the complete full-back, but I love flair players, and Irvine was an adventurer. I'd have Gerald Davies on the right wing, he was like a demented ferret. could come off either foot in a blink. And David Duckham for his crafty would be the other centre, with Gareth Edwards and Barry John at scrum-half and stand-off half, because they knew each other so well, aithough Phil Bennett was a wonderful player too.

"Fran Cotton is my loose-head prop and Graham Price, another durable citizen, the tight-head. The locks? Willie John McBride and Gordon Brown, who were immense in South Africa in 1974. Some would say they'd have trouble against the 6ft 7in boys of today hut I don't see why, though of course you'd need a fork-lift truck to get Willie John off the ground nowadays. Mervyn Davies was a class No 8, an amazing fellow. And flankers? Peter Winterbottom, Finlay Calder, John Jeffrey they all had great moments. but my number one would be Fergus Slattery, and I might even consider playing him with Winterbottom, two natural open-sides..."

A schoolboy could not match McLaren's zest for this game of hypotheticals, nor would a schoolboy cast his dream team almost entirely from the past. We are talking in the Rugby Club, central London home of the Professional Rugby Players' Association. For McLaren, such a title remains a regrettable oxymoron. He is, unashamedly, a tra-



Still young at heart: A schoolboy could not match Bill McLaren's zest for this game of hypotheticals, nor would a schoolboy cast his dream team almost entirely from the past

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REPORTS IN ASSESSE

because their granny's neighbour in Auckland once got a postcard from Auchtermuchty. Rugby, says McLaren, was a better game before the curse of professionalism.

"To many people of my generation . it was the greatest team game in the world. And sportsmanship transcended everything. Now there are attempts to intimidate referees; if they'd tried that in the old days they'd have been scorched with a blow-torch. In the olden days there was a desire to win. Now, with sponsorship and so on, there's a need to

"So it's become a more physical game, with guys getting swept away in a great tidal wave of ferocity. I worry about that. There are enough bumps and bruises in rugby without risking anything more serious.

"In my day you'd be drawn aside when I was 17 and playing for Hawick, I remember walking down the High Street and hearing a knock on the window of the National Bank of Scotland, It was R.L. Scott, president of the Scottish Rugby Union, no less. I walked into the inner sanctum. Billy,' he said - they called me Billy ditionalist, who deplores the fact – in those days – you tend to tackle a I exaggerate only slightly—that there player by thumping your hands on "I can think of nothing more up- McLaren was commentating. "His are New Zealanders currently his shoulders and throwing him lifting than standing out there with mother, my daughter, expected me

bers of the SRU committee, I sup-

McLaren has been described as career for a single cap? A long cotland's finest uncapped player. pause. "Aye, I would Not for anything Scotland's finest uncapped player. He was a flank forward, a regular both for Hawick and the South of Scotland, and in 1947 he was on the verge of an international call-up when he developed tuberculosis. He was told he'd have to spend four years in a hospital bed. "That was

claiming a place in the Scotland side down. Don't do it. They don't like it.' your anthem being played, and you Who they were, I don't know. Mem- with your job to do. It is my one regret, that I didn't get just one cap."
Would he swap his broadcasting

else, wife or family, but for the broadcasting ... aye.

His wife of nigh-on 50 years, Bette, chides him when he gets all dewy-eyed about might-have-beens. "And Bette's right, of course. I've nothing to moan about. After all, for a bit of a blow," he says, with glori- a Scotsman to see Scotland play so ous understatement. Thanks to a many times, and for free, is a mar-

to say 'that's my boy', but I thought he'd get an awful ragging from his pals." Gregor's younger brother, Rory, is a promising player too, and captains the Dollar Academy First XV. Their father is Alan Lawson, who played 15 times for Scotland as

"I nearly fell out of the commentary box in 1976 when Alan scored a wonderful try against England," McLaren recalls. Indeed, he has often had to rein in his emotions, for in 35 years as a PE teacher in Hawick he coached a number of lads who

'To many people of my generation it was the greatest team game in the world. And sportsmanship transcended everything. Now there are attempts to intimidate referees; if they'd tried that in the old days they'd have been scorched with a blow-torch'

new drug called streptomycin, how-vellous thing." Besides, be might yet ever, he was cured in less than two have the satisfaction of seeing a years, which was considered such a medical triumph that his X-rays were sent all round Europe for doctors to marvel at. But he never played rugby again. And even now the recollection causes this most engaging of men to heave a big sad

grandson or two lining up in a hiue jersey while "Flower of Scotland"

rings round Murrayfield. One grandson, Gregor Lawson, plays for a strong Heriot's side, and two weeks ago showed an impressive sense of occasion, weaving past six Melrose men while

went on to win full international bonours, among them Jim Renwick, Colin Deans and Tony Stanger.

If McLaren has to rein anything in during the forthcoming Five Nations tournament, however, it is more likely to be despair than joy. Scotland are firm favourites for the wooden spoon and interest in the sport seems to be diminishing, with Murrayfield two-thirds empty for the visit last year of the world champi-

cinating to see how big those audiences are, for Ireland and Wales," says McLaren, who at least has 75 vears of perspective to draw from.

"Countries like Scotland and Ireland have to accept that success will come in dribs and drabs, with long hungers between. In 1955, when Scotland played Wales, and I'd been broadcasting for 18 months, Scotland had been beaten 17 consecutive times. But that day we beat a very good Welsh side, with Rex Willis and Cliffy Morgan, 14-8. And at the end of my commentary I handed over to Jock Wernyss, who was the doyen of Scottish rugby commentators and had only one eye - the other was shot out during the First World War-and he said "I can hardly speak." For him, that was quite something. Then he said "we've come out of the long dark tunnel into the sunshine " and there was a tear running down from

the one good eye. You know, I would love to have been there when Scotland played France in 1920. Jock was playing for Scotland, and amazingly they found out that one of the French players, Lubin-Lebrere, had also had an eye shot out in the war. So the two captains agreed that they should mark

ons, South Africa. "Aye, it will be fas- had to feel for each other on the blind

McLaren, the old romantic, shakes his head in wonder. He can still reel off the names of the 1925 side that won Scotland's first Grand Slam. He still has the buge ledgers that his father brought home from the factory, in which young Billy wrote long, meticulous reports of fictional matches - among them, Scotland 48. The World 3. And he is able. it seems, to recall every minute of a trip he made with his dad in 1936, to see England v Scotland at Twickenham. Nevertheless, his view of the past is not unremittingly rosy.

"At the beginning of the 1960s," he says, "the game was dying. I com-mentated on Scotland v Wales in 1963 and there were 111 line-outs in a war of attrition up and down the touchline. Then they brought in the Australian dispensation, restricting touch-kicking between the 25s. It all changed. Now, the midfield is too cluttered and even class backs have difficulty creating openings. Somehow, forwards should be confined to the rucks and mauls, as well as the scrummage, until the ball is cleared. The game needs its fluency back."

Amen to that. But it will be a crying shame if McLaren is no longer each other in the line-out, and they at the microphone when it happens.

# Banks leads attack on 'sad, soured, sullied' IOC

TONY BANKS, Britain's Minister for Sport, yesterday led calls for farreaching reforms of the International Olympic Committee as it convened on home territory for the World Conference on Doping in Sport.

Banks demanded that an organisation which has been traumatised in recent weeks by revelations of corruption should become a democratically elected body, and he questioned its ability to operate a truly inde-pendent dope testing agency.
"The reputation of the IOC is once

again on the line, and we expect it to clean up its act," Banks said. "The system operating at the moment does not have the confidence of our Olympic athletes." As Banks spoke out, the beleaguered IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, sat stoically no more than 10 feet away. Perhaps he was pondering on his sins The notion of establishing an out-

of-competition testing body is one of elections," said Banks, whose com-

DRUGS IN SPORT

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

the key proposals at the conference, which got underway in the Palais de Beaulieu. A working party chaired by Dick Pound, the IOC vice-president who is conducting the internal investigation into allegations of bribery over Olympic site selections, is rec-ommending the establishment of an agency at the cost of \$25m (£15.25m).

But Banks claimed it would not be appropriate for the IOC to run such an agency itself. "It needs to be in the aegis of an agency of the United Nations, perhaps the World Health Organisation," he said.

He also criticised the method of entry to the IOC, which has traditionally rubber-stamped selections made under the direction of Samaranch. "There is no substitute for from the United States and Germany.

"As someone who regularly puts himself up for election, I'm a great fan of them," Banks added. "They are the way all democracies should proceed, including international sports federations. Otherwise peo-

We do expect the IOC to reform its structure. It's not the sort of structure that should enter the 21st century. Juan Antonio Samaranch understands that. We believe in the principles of the Olympic movement, but at the moment it is looking rather sad and rather soured, and rather sulfied."

Samaranch himself fitted that description yesterday as he digested an attack from one of his most senior vice-presidents, Prince Alexandre de Merode, who claimed the president had set the fight against doping back by 10 years. The head of the IOC medical commission claimed Samaranch had opposed his plans to es-

ments were echoed by delegations tablish an independent out-of-com-

petition testing agency in 1989. "The plan was shot down in flames by 90 per cent of the people who today are in favour," de Merode seid. "We have lost 10 years. The fig-ure required for setting it up then was \$3m. Today it is \$25m."

General Barry R McCaffrey, the director of the White House Drug Policy Office, touched on several of the points raised by Banks when he addressed the meeting. "The Olympic anti-drug and doping programme should be operative 365 days of every year and should be overseen by a sep-arately established drug testing and

oversight agency," he said. McCaffrey added that the United States was ready to fund \$1m-worth of research to help close "the scientific gaps in drug testing that provide safe bavens for chemical cheating". At a later meeting, he called for

to be some kind of notion of elections hased on democratic principles, for the benefit both of the IOC membership and the wider community it serves. The IOC needs to address these difficult issues."

Germany's Interior Minister Otto Schily, added his weight to the this line of argument. "In my view the IOC cannot discharge the functions which go with its role, unless the institution is completely overhauled

Banks also directed his comments towards an area where Britain and the IOC have been at odds, namely the length of bans given out for serious doping offences. Britain rejuctantly fell in line with the International Amateur Athletic Federation's reduction of the maximum first-time ban from four to two years in 1997.

The shift followed successful apthe IOC to open its financial books peals in civil courts by banned athto scrutiny, and added: "There has letes to have their bans reduced to draw funding from all UK bodies that

two years, claiming unfair restraint of trade. Britain retains its stance of banning any serious doping offenders from taking part in any future Olympics, but Banks made it clear vesterday that the current state of affairs was still not regarded as being

satisfactory. "Our government is responsible towards our athletes, and the majority of them want to see the introduction of life bans for offenders and blood testing," Banks said, "Whether we get our wish here is still to be seen, but we are bound to push for it because our athletes want it."

He is unlikely to have his wish at this conference. One of the other main objectives here is to standardise penalties for doping abuse, which will mean accepting two-year bans in order not to fall foul of civil actions.

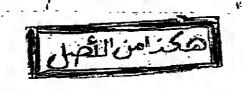
Banks also sounded a warning to any domestic federations dragging their feet on doping. "We shall with-

are not rigorously imposing doping control," he said.

A submission by a Finnish judge. Lauri Tarasti, here today may offer encouragement to Britain's European 200m champion, Doug Walker, who faces the possibility of a twoyear ban after two dope tests indicated the presence of the banned

steroid, nandrolone. Tarasti, in a discussion of legal light ability in doping cases, cites the case? of the Nigerian burdler Ime Akpan. who was cleared by the International Amateur Athletic Federation in 1995 when she claimed metabolites of nandrolone found in her sample had come from a substance not on the IOC banned list

Walker, who will learn if he has a case to answer by 14 February, has said his adverse finding stemmed from an innocent substance. But it is unlikely to be the one taken by Akpan, as that was Norityn, a con-



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Taylor ends
his glorious
Test career Stephen Brenkley examines the achievements of Australia's remarkable cricket captain, who has finally earned recognition of fellow countrymen

HE WAS a country boy but he might have been a king. Mark Taylor was noble, humble, granever been caught on film. As probably misguided. "Tm startcious and hard as nails. He chewed gum instead of wearing diminished his majesty. Yesterday in Sydney, Taylor confirmed the worst kept secret of the millennium and announced his retirement as an international cricketer and captain of

His replacement will be named next week and, while "the king is dead, long live the king" is a necessary adage in sport as well as countries, it is difficult to imagine that the Australian Cricket Board will turn up anybody who can rotate his jaws so effectively. Taylor, 34, has been one of the most successful of all 39 captains of Australia and while some debate has arisen these past few days about the precise tier on which he should sit in the pantheon, this is largely academic. "Tubby" Taylor is right up there.

The measure of the respect and esteem in which he is held was apparent yesterday at the large gathering in a Sydney hotel where he formally ended his tenure. There was a phalanx \*Cameras, notebooks and tape recorders, and if there were any real kings in town their visit would have gone unrecorded.

Taylor, always Tubs or Tubby .. 1998 in the game for the robustness of his girth, fielded the questions with his usual decorum and generosity, and when there were none left and be was ready to depart, his audience broke into a prolonged round of applause. Since the assembly consisted almost entirely of reporters, presenters, commentators, writers and various types of cameramen, all species who would usually rather cut off their hands than applaud an object of their scrutiny with them. Taylor could be said to have

done something right. He scored 7,525 runs as a left-handed opener of limited range but quite formidable knowledge of the whereabouts of his off stump, a total second world record 157 catches, most of them at first slip, and if there

captain he won 26 and drew 11 of his 50 Tests and won 11 from a crown but it never remotely 14 series. Australia are world

champions by a distance. Last autumn his life changed forever, as did the public perception of him, when he made 334 not out in a Test against Pakistan in Peshawar He had always been seen as a man of high principles, but when he declared on that score he entered territory reserved for gods.

That was the amount Donald Bradman had once made in a Test match, the highest ever by an Australian. Taylor could have overtaken it and probably gone on to beat the highest Test score of 375, but he put the needs of the team first. Some have since suggested that he might have declared earlier. which is to show that mean-

#### TAYLOR-MADE SUCCESS

- 1964 27 October, born Mark Anthony Bylor in Lecton, Australia
  1985 Makes first-class debut
  1989 Makes Test class debut
  1989 Makes Test class debut
  1989 Marries Indith Matthews
  1989 Scores first Test century, 136
  v England at Heodingley
  1992 Named as Australia captain, Makes
  a pair in his first Test as captain,
  v Pakistan
  1996 Leads Australia to final of one-day
  World Cup in India and Pakistan
  1998 Equals Don Bradman's Australian
  Test record of 334no v Pakistan
  at Peshawar
- 1998 Plays 100th Test, v England at Brisbane
- 1999 Ceads Australia to record sorth series win over England: breaks Allan Border's workt record for the highest number of catches by a fielder (157) February 2, announces retir
- CAREER STATISTICS Hundrada 19 Fifties 40 Catches 157 (world record)

spiritedness is alive and kicking, and although Taylor himself has said that he did not deliberately declare on 334 this has been ignored.

Taylor was made Australian of the Year last week and while critics said it should have gone to someone who makes a more tangible difference to the world, only to Allan Border. He took a they miss the point that he is an exemplar for a generation. "I have got more out of crick-

ing to lose the edge to compete at Test level and I couldn't just go on as captain. I dare say I'il be sad when the guys go off to the West Indies and the captain says a few a words about how well he hopes the team will do but I know I've made the right

Denis Rogers, the chairman of the ACB, contented himself with saying that they had always made it abundantly clear Taylor would leave on his terms. "He has always had our full support but it was up to him when he retired. I don't challenge the intellectual rigour be has brought to the decision."

The record Taylor leaves is impressive enough but the number of runs, catches and victories do not alone convey the qualities of the man who accumulated them. In a sport which can never have been more intense, where gamesmanship and occasional sharp practice have come to be expected, he was a dazzling example.

Alec Stewart, the England captain, touched on it in his tribute. "He will be the best captain I've played with or against. He's the best tactically I've seen but he was always down to earth, always played the game as it should be played, played it hard, played it fair. I respect him as a bloke and a cricketer. He's a really good bloke." Taylor was a Wagga boy who

moved to Sydney. He first played for Australia on his home ground against West Indies 10 years ago. His best series as a player came the following summer in England. "For a month I couldn't get a run," he said yesterday. "My highest score was 11 and I remember saying I think to my dad, that at least I've made one Ashes tour, I don't exnect to make another." The Test series started and Taylor's form was transformed. He put England to the sword throughout the summer. There were two centuries, five 50s, 839 series runs, an average of 83.90 and at Trent Bridge he and Geoff Marsh batted for the whole of the first day without being parted.



On top of the world: Mark Taylor holds his arms aloft after completing his triple century during Australia's victory in the second Test against Pakistan at Peshawar last year

der's retirement in 1994 but he quickly asserted his quieter if perpetually open-mouthed, style of leadership. In his second series he retained the Ashes and in his third he tock: a side to the Caribbean and won 2-0. That, he recalled, was the second highlight of his career because the tour was heading towards disaster. Taylor is credited with pulling it round.

By the time he came to England in 1997 to defend the Ashes. Taylor was under the severest pressure of his career.

Taylor certainly had a hard The runs had all but completely ment. In the first innings at . . . He was dropped from Ausact to follow when he was handdried up and his critics, many
ed the captaincy on Allan Borif not most of them former

Butcher bowled Malcolm for
after 113 matches and 67 as a Australia captains, were jostling each other to find a microphone down which they could opine that Taylor ought to go and sharpish.

He had gone 20 Test innings without a 50 and Australians have never picked a captain and then the team. Their belief is that the captain comes from the best 11 players and Taylor, it was felt, was no longer that regardless of the side's glorious results. The knives were not so

"That was the lowest mo-

seamer Richard Logan led a

commendable England fight-

back with hat and ball towards

the end of the first day of the

opening Under-19 Test against

New Zealand here yesterday.

on the eve of the match, scored

61 while helping add a priceless 83 for the last wicket with Mark

Wallace who finished 29 not out.

The stand carried England

Logan, whose mother died

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BY SPENCER WRIGHT

seven. If I had gone out in the second innings and failed I think I would have stood down."

Anybody who saw Taylor bat

on the Saturday afternoon of that match knew he was a special batsman and man. His team were up against it; he was oo his way out. He made the grittiest of hundreds under fire. It was not enough to save the match but it saved his place, ended the speculation and allowed him to carry on planning much out as piercing his back. the demolition of England, which was duly achieved.

England Under-19 285

should play - and he certainly

has not regretted his decision.

skipper Jarrod Englefield leg

captain with a 54 per cent win rate. This miffed him, as he said at the time, but his position as Test captain was unassailable. He knew wheo to change bowlers, he exposed opposition weaknesses, he knew how to impose pressure and his team's authority, he wanted to

win, he was lucky. Taylor's replacement will probably be Steve Waugh, though Shane Warne and Mark Waugh will also be discussed. All three might profitably ask him what chewing gum he used.

### Klusener steps in to rescue the Boks

BY GRAHAM ALLTREE in Cape Town

South Africa 221-8

DALE BENKENSTEIN scored a maiden international half century and Lance Klusener hlazed 54 in just 36 balls as South Africa fought back in the fifth one-day international match against the West Indies in Cape Town vesterday.

Mark Boucher made an equally vital 34 as South Africa recovered after a miserable start - which saw them 68 for 6 - to make 22t for 8 on a Newlands pitch offering bounce and

movement. Hansie Crooje, the South African captain, won the toss and elected to bat on a pitch that ended up playing very slowly, making stroke play difficult, Nixon McLean did the early damage, taking all three wickets as the home side were reduced to 50 for three by the

15th over, Keith Semple, a mediumpace bowler, continued to apply the pressure and took two quick wickets including that of Crooje, caught behind for two in his 100th one day international as South African captain. Curtly Ambrose claimed the wicket of Jacques Kallis with a slower ball to leave South Africa's much vaunted lower order facing a major rebuilding opera-

Benkenstein - run out on the last ball for 69 - added 62 in 17 overs with Boucher who edged an Ambrose delivery to the wicketkeeper. Klusener, an allrounder, then came to the wicket at 130 for 7 with ten overs remaining. He hit three sixes and two fours in a bruising South African eighth wicket record partnership of 91.

The last two wickets added 153 in 27 overs. South Africa lead the best of seven series by three matches to one.

> South Africa won tosa SOUTH APRICA

G Kirsten e Jacobs b McLean H H Grobs b McLean 

L Klusener nor out ..... 54 Extras (64 nb-1 w3) ...... 8

■ David Terbrugge, the South African seamer, has withdrawn from the forthcoming tour of

New Zealand because of an

ankle injury. The 22-year-old will

be replaced by the veteran all-

rounder Steve Elworthy, 32.

### Thomas puts England in command

DARREN THOMAS claimed three wickets to put England A in a commanding position against Zimbabwe in the first A

Test in Harare yesterday. The home side closed on 63 for 5 after the Glamorgan medium-pacer and Melvyn Betts of Durham took the wickets during a day blighted by overnight rain and bad light. Only one hour and 45 minutes play were possible. Michael Vaughan, the England captain, put Zimbabwe ir on a soft, green wicket and Andy olenty of seam movement.

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By MARK HARGREAVES

England struck in the sevto guide Betts through gully. Swann also caught Don

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Zimbabwe A 63-5

enth over when Betts had Trevor Madondo caught behind. Six overs later Craig Wishart fell to Thomas after his back foot dislodged a bail as he set off for a run. Only Guy Whittall. Zimbabwe's senior batsman, offered any resistance, before he was out for 24, caught by Graeme Swann, as he tried

Campbell off Thomas, who also removed Dirk Viljoen. Thomas finished with 3 for 24 and Betts 2 for 30.

England A have managed only four days play from a possible nine on their tour because of a severe Zimbabwean rainy season.

First day: England A won toss
Zimbebwe A - First burlegs
T N Mydondo c Read b Betts
C B Wishart hit wicker o Thomas
G J Whittail C Swann b Betts
O P Vijoen c Read b Thomas

O F Vijoen c Read b Thomas

80 100 27.1 -11C Light snow

-8C Changeable

Bright

29.1

29.1

01.2 -60

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

WORLDCOVER

TRAVEL TASLERANCE

100

Belvedere bowl gd 45 70 28.1 -10C Changeable

70 120

Good snow cover 70 60 26.1

To Base & C Strang, A R Whittall, A Huckle. E Matambandzo. Bowling: Betts 9-1-30-2: Filotoff 7-5-7 O; Thomas 7-1- 24-3.

New Delhi police want to draft in 20 snake charmers as a security safeguard for the second Test against Pakistan this week. A deputy commissioner said a formal request had been sent to the environment ministry to supply the charmers before the start of the Test, which begins tomorrow. The decision follows threats made by Hindu militants to release venomous snakes around the ground to disrupt the match.

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

FA CUP

(Sponsored by AXA)
FOURTH-ROUND REPLAYS

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Com-

bined Services XI v Ryman League XI (at Aldershot Military Stadium).

Harlow Town v Windsor & Eton (7.45).

UNIBOND LEAGUE CUP Third-

round replay: Gateshead v Farsley

DR MARTENS LEAGUE CUP Second

round: Racing Gub Warwick v Sutton Coldfield Town (7.45).

First Division: Eastbourne Town v Languey Sports; Selsey v Horstam YMCA (7.43).

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Pro

mier Division: Chippenham Town v Brislington (7.45). Les Phillips Cup third round: Yeovil Town v Bridport

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE CUP

Quarter-finals first leg: Eastleigh v Bournemouth FC; Moneyfields v Christ-

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Birmingham City v Manchester Utd (7.15): Nottingham Forest v Aston Vil-la (7.0) (at Manshed Town FQ. First Division: Barnsley v Grimsby Town (7.0): Middlesbrough v West Bromwich

RYMAN LEAGUE Second Divisi

Cheises v Oxford Urd (7.45) ....

łuddersfield v Wrexham (7.45) ...

Manchester Utd v Derby (8.0) ....

Ovdeback v Ross County...

Celtic (7.45).

from 202 for 9 to a respectable 285 oo a good wicket. Logan will return to England

for his mother's funeral after this game but both he and his

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Albion (7.0), Second Division: Black-pool v York City (7.0); Scarborough v Newcastle Utd (7.0); Sheffield Utd v Shrevsbury Town (2.0), Third Divi-sion: Chester City v Bury (2.0); Chesterfield v Darlington (2.0); Harde-pool Utd v Walsall (7.0); Rochdale v Scunthorpe Utd (2.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Brighton v Tottenham Hotspur (7.0): Cambridge Utd v Arse-ral (7.0): Gillingham v Brentford (2.0): Millwall v Ipswich Town (2.0): Watford v Southampton: Wycombe Wanderers

RUGBY LEAGUE NOLY MATCH: Hatifax v Wigar

WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE First Division: Merthyr v Yondu (7.0): UWIC v Trearchy (7.0). CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University

RUGBY UNION

BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Mancheste Glants v Edinburgh Rocks (7.40); Thames Valley Tigers v Derby Storm (8.0); Worthing Bears v London Tow-ers (8.0).

ICE HOCKEY

(7.30).

SERONDA SUPERLEAGUE: London Knights v Nortingham Panthers (7.0); Sheffield Steelers v Manchester Storm OTHER SPORTS

SQUASH: British Closed Champion fit by Easter, while the Aus-

leaving New Zealand on 12 for 2, still 273 behind. England's captain, Michael

Zealand's wicketkeeper, Peter

Gough, and Ian Flanagan put New Zealand Under-19 12-2 on 47 for the first wicket before Gough edged a lifting ball from father were determined that be James Franklin to New

McGlashan.

Logan's runs carry tourists to safety

After his display with the bat The tourists then suffered a be took the new ball and took collapse with the middle-order a wicket in his first over, havdeparting in the space of six ing Tim McIntosh caught high overs. Ian Bell and Michael at secood slip by Joe Tucker. Soon after the Somerset leftarmer Matt Bulbeck trap Kiwi

Carberry were both caught at short leg while John Maunders edged to second slip. Flanagan had hatted subefore for a first-ball duck, perbly for 53 but he fell straight

after lunch, caught by Englefield. He was the first of five victims for seamer Hayden Shaw After Bulbeck fell first ball to

Shaw, the Yorkshire all-rounder Richard Dawsoo began the fightback with an aggressive 67 that included a pulled six which almost clattered into the team

Dawson added 72 for the with Tucker but punishing form of Logan, ably supported by Wallace, really turned the game around.

PRST YOUTH TEST MATCH (New Plymouth): England Under-19 135 IR KJ Dawson 67, R J Logan 61 1875-nagan 53, H Staw 5-491; New Zealand Under-19 12-2

### Turner free to rekindle rivalry

DARREN TURNER, a Wembley try-scorer for Sheffield Eagles last year, will be free to play in their re-match against Salford, the side they beat in the semifinals, despite being giveo a one-match ban last night.

Turner was sent off for a reckless high tackle in the friendly against Wakefield, but will serve his ban in another pre-season run-out, against Hull this Friday.

This year's Silk Cut Challenge Cup fourth-round tie between Salford and Sheffield will be the televised game on Saturday, 13 February. The meeting of the heavy hitters, between Leeds and Wigan, would have been the obvious candidate for that slot, but

Leeds United are at home that

day and the tie will oow be tele-

vised on the Sunday. All Wigan's first-team squad, apart from Denis Betts and Mark Reber, will feature in a friendly at Halifax tonight. Betts is still recovering from a knee injury and expects to be

RUGBY LEAGUE BY DAVE HADFIELD

tralian Reber, Wigan's likely first-choice hooker now that

Jon Clarke has been gaoled, has yet to arrive. The utility forward, Mick

Cassidy, and the Academy player, Mark Smith, will share

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of goals conceded by Kuwait's ice hockey team in two matches at the Winter Asian Games in South Korea. They lost 44-1 to China and 35-0 to

Jopan, during the course of which Japan had 136 shots on goal. hooking duties and the match will mark the Wigan debuts of two Australian signings, Brett

Goldspink and Greg Florimo. Sheffield, meanwhile, will be without their long-term injury victims - Steve Molloy, Michael Jacksoo and Matt Crowther against Hull. Their absence will also stretch the club's resources for the tie against Salford, but the Eagles' ccach. John Kear, believes that the quality of his squad this season will compensate for any lack of

quantity. "We want to go back to Wembley and defend the Challenge Cup like the proud people we are," he said. "If we can do that and find the consistency to make the top five, we can tick this off as a successful season."

Bradford Bulls, long-frustrated in their hopes of playing in a redeveloped Odsal, are considering a move to a new purpose-built stadium close by The Bulls were the bestsupported club in last year's Super League, but are desperate to improve their facilities.

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Day at Ashabara

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BOOK BUT TRANS

# Rowe still Supposin a dream win

SUCH IS the hopeless optimism of most racehorse trainers that there are probably at least a dozen of them who believe that one of their horses is "the best hurdler in Britain". Richard Rowe, however, has the backing of the form book when he makes the claim for I'm Supposin.

An easy winner of the Kingwell Hurdle and then third - behind two Irish runners - in the Champion Hurdle itself last season, I'm Supposin might be one of the favourites for the championship in an ordinary year. It is a measure of the present balance of power in hurdling that the Tote still quote him at 25-1 against, but then that same Cheltenham form which gives I'm Supposin bragging rights in Britain also shows how far he has to claim the ultimate prize. Thirteen lengths, to be exact, the distance which separated him

from Istabraq last time around. It is an enormous amount of improvement for any horse to make in just 12 months. Whether I'm Supposin has any realistic chance of doing so should become clear on Saturday, when he makes his sea-

By Greg Wood

sonal debut in the Agfa Hurdle at Sandown. The opposition should include last year's winner, Master Beveled, who is not entered in the Champion, but remains one of the most reliable benchmarks around.

Success would see the 25-1 for Cheltenham evaporate, if only because each-way backers know that even Istabraq cannot

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Thekryaati (Wolverhampton 3.30) NB: Mary Jane (Wolverhampton 2.30)

fill three places at once In fact, the odds could well short. en before the weekend, as punters notice that, for a horse who started 6-1 second-favourite last time around, I'm Supposin

seems significantly over-priced. His long absence from the track may be a deterrent for some, but it is simply soft ground which has kept him at home. "We haven't run him because the ground has been too heavy, and if it stays dry, he will

run at Sandown," Rowe said yesterday. "He'll improve whatever he does, but I couldn't be more pleased with him."

I'm Supposin was the only horse who made any real attempt to take on Istabraq at Cheltenham, and paid the price for his effort when run out of second place close home. Form students might say that he didn't stay on up the hill because something came and nicked second off him," Rowe said, "If I had a choice, I suppose I might prefer it if the Champion Hurdle was run at [flat] Wincanton, but I'd say that he's strengthened up since last year, and you can hardly say he's done much wrong in the two Champions he's run in."

It is a fair point, I'm Supposin having finished fourth in the same race two seasons ago. Unfortunately for Rowe, if the pattern continues, his runner will fill second place on 16 March.

Saturday will be an important day too for Lord Gyllene, the 1997 Grand National winner, whose path back to Aintree leads though the Singer & Friedlander National Trial at Ut- Steve Brookshaw, his trainer, toxeter, as it did two years ago. said yesterday. "He'd got fed up

Such was the majesty of his performance at Liverpool – he led throughout and won by 30 lot more enthusiastic now."

with not having any racing and was working quietly, but he's a lot more enthusiastic now." lengths - that many felt he could have won with 2st more

On Tuesday, Brookshaw will discover the burden his horse on his back. There was talk of will carry at Aintree. "He went him becoming the first since up 10lb after he won the Na-Red Rum to win more than one tional, and another 13th for having a year off," Brookshaw said. "Now he's come back down, but the way he's handicapped, he can only go for valuable races. dock in December, when he He'll need a couple more before the National and he's got a lot and Forest Flower. of weight on Saturday. I'll be happy if he gets placed."

Lord Gyllene warms up for Aintree at Uttoxeter on Saturday DovidRogers/Allsport

PAUL MELLON, the owner of the great Mill Reef, the winner of the Derby, Eclipse Stakes, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in 1971, has died, aged 91. Mellon, an American, also owned Glint Of Gold, runner up to Shergar in the 1981 Derby, Diamond Shoal.

> Ohitmary Review, page 6

### Moondigua heavily backed for Sandown ANTE-POST UPDATE

MOONDIGUA, THE seven length winner at Warwick on his map pearance in January, was yes terday backed from 7-2 with William Hill and the Tote down to a top-priced 9-4 with Coral for the Sandown Handicap Hurdle on Saturday, Martin Pipe, Moondigua's in-form trainer, also has Out Ranking, Rainbow Frontier

and Nocksky in the race. Pipe's Country Store landed a touch at Taunton yesterday. Country Store had not won for over four years and was comto 6-1 on course. Tony McCoy deserted Country Store to ride the eventual runner-up The Cockertoo and it was left to Richard Johnson to get the winner home by a short-head. Joe Mac, 21/2-lengths second to Alexander Banquet in

BY IAN DAVIES

the Festival Bumper last season, is the 3-1 favourite with Ladbrokes for the two-nations 110-yards Supreme Novices' Hurdle, the opening race at the Cheltenham Festival on Thesday, 16 March, Barton, the easy winner of the River Don Novices' Hurdle at Doncaster on Saturday is the 5-2 fevourity ing back from a 295-day lay-off with Ladbrokes for the twobut was backed from 10-1 to 4-1 mile-five-furiong Royal SmAlin the morning before drifting liance Novices' Hurdle, on the second day of the Feetival Supreme Horizes' Hardis: Ledender: 3-1 Jon Mac. 6 : Castinal Hill, Hidebourd, 10-1 Cotton Yeager Chall Senor All Gong, 20-1 Crary Harte, Carolina Siege Par, Tile, Phy.

Chary French Stondard Montage Machine Leads broken: 5-2 Barron 9-2 Housenster Bengalt. 5-1 Cardens HA, Ch. I Kenga Rose, 18-1 Buds-5-20, N-1 Az Gorng, 18-1 Behvester, Bosses Maco Creedings Cenga Ranga Mate, Preminent Profile

SANDOWN HANDICAP HURBLE (2m 6f) digus fel Pipe 10040 ure () iii Jeller and (C Egypton Torizo) lody Maid (N Henderson, 10st) Inches A L T Mount & Test St. At Parcy (J Billout Tax 10b) Forte Extremt (S R Mirror, Total Blobe Runner LJ J CRief Set Gib! Just Hip Files L Richards TOWN Out Residing (M Pipe, Quille) Relation Frontier (M Piperins 41) Portros (R Rose 9st 984 ocksky (tž Pop Set 100)

### HUNTER CHASE POINTERS

The increasingly competitive point-to-point circuit is having a bigger im-pact on jump racing under rules then ever. This new weekly column aims to pinpoint future hunter chase winners and horses who, like Teeton Mill, the Gold Cup lavourite, may go on to even better things.

LARKHILL (30 Jan) Gildrom clocked an outstanding time for a five-year-old debutant when whoning Division One of the 2/4-mile Open Maiden in the fastest time of the day. Making headway to lead at

MUSSELBURGH

Going: Good, Good to Soft in places

£100, £180, £280, DF: £300, CSF; £312.

1. GUNNER MARC L Wyer 10-1 2. Curriculus C McCormeck 10-1 3. Celestial Kay A Maguire 3-1 Alao: 5-4 lay Fristerre (4th), 8-1 Persian Fayre, 10-1 Schmister (6th), 12-1 Major Hage (5th), 100-1 Die Hard Lady, Schillechi.

8 ren. 11/4, 11/4, nk, 18, 8. (Winner bay mare by Gunner 8 out of Pupilistic, trained by J M Jefferson at Melton for Mesons Arms Racing), Tate: win £860; places £2.30, £2.60, £160. DF: £42.30. CSF: £91.40.

2.30: (2m novice chase)
1. BARMBURGH BOY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ L Wyer 3-1
2. Ballad Minstrel \_\_\_\_\_ R Gerrity 4-5 fav
3. Rossel \_\_\_\_\_\_ C McCornack 9-2

No Anmoosty.

7 ram. 3, B. 14, 17. (Winner bey gelding by Shalford out of Tudord Hideawey, trained by T Easterby at Malton for M P Burles Family Settlement). Vote: win E3.40; places £150, £150. DF: £2.70. CSF: £507.

bucktoo. G ran. 5, 7, 9, 31/s. (Winner chastnut geld-ing by Presidium out ofDohty Baby, trained by J M Jefferson at Malton for D T Todd).

Total: win £790; places £320, £220, £110. DF: £1500. CSF: £3846. Tricest: £19812.

J. FORTY LOVE — AD Obbin 9-1
2. Parts Pite — Theory 10-1
3. Mr Lurpak — Mr J P McNemera 6-1
Alac: 5-1 fav Falcon Du Cosses (6th), 11-2
Brutan (4th), 8-1 Lord Pat, Shardante,
12-1 Reverse Charge, 4-1-2 RO Alagic (5th),
Oh So Cosy, 20-1 Cesuel Call, 25-1
Ayelmowso, Muligan's Boy, 33-1 Dusky
Treats Karristolle.

Dante, Kerrisdale.

10 ran. 2/s, 1/s, 5, 2/s, /s. (Winner bay gold-ing by Second Set out of Phangs, trained by J Goldle at Kilmamock for Tayside Farm-ing). Tote: win £12.90; places £3.90, £2.70. £190. DF: £54.70. CSP. £85.72. Tricast: £543.82. Tinfecta: £459.50.

3. Topotherordhuacing — R McGraith 6-1
Alac: 5-2 far My Shenandosh (6th), 8-1 Bride Path, 10-1 Irah Wildcard, 12-1 Comrade
Chinnary, Prelude To Fame, 20-1 Livio, 33-1
D'Arblay Street (8th), Surrise Sensaston
(4th), Trump, 50-1 Scribbler, Sheppardon,
14 min. 2'h, 6, 1'h, 6, 1'h, (Winner rosn gelding by Say Primula out of Vinovia, trained
by Mrs D Sayer at Pernith for A Slack), Totac
vant STAU, places S 2560, 0420, C150, DF:
59840, CSF: 57133.

¥THE INDEPENDENT

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TAUNTON

971 981

3.30: (2m 4f novice handicap hurdle)

2.00: (2m novice hurdle)
1. GUNNER MARC.

the third last fence, he went clear two out to beat Feir Wind by 21/2 lengths.

Fair Wind, always prominent, was far from disgraced in defeat, keeping on gamely and finishing 15 lengths clear of the third. AMPTON (31 Jan)

RESULTS

Hatcham Boy won the Mens Open in the fastest time of the day. Always well there, he was ridden to lead two out and went away to score by four-lengths from Avostar.

Jackpot: Not won, Pool of \$26,7682 car-ried forward to Wolverhampton today, Placepot: \$3130, Quadpot: \$1080, Place 6: \$3920, Place 5: \$3382.

LINGFIELD

1.20: 1. TAICHLID (Mess FI Clark) 7-4 fav; 2. Juhiline Schotur 7-2; 3. Dembrae 10-1 6 ran, 114, 1 (D Chapman), Tote: £340; £110, £140, £291 DF: £370 CSF; £652 Tricast: £4052.

1.50: 1. MELOMANIA (Mes C Haddow) 40-1;

2. Gadge 11-2; 3. Redoubtable 15-8 fav. 9 ran. 1'A, 4. (P. Howing). Tota: \$77450; £1180, £260, £00, DF: £40830, CSF; £21805.

2.20; 1. ORSAY (Martin Dwyar) 7-2; 2. Night City 7-4 tar; 3. Delius 14-1, 8 ranz 31/s, 6. (W Muir). Total: £450; £130, £130, £700. DF: £880. CSP: £854. NP: Key Yo The City. 2.50: 1. LIGHT BREEZE (R Brishnd) 7-4 fav.

Tricast £578.55.

TAUNTON

tord Forum). Total: \$490; \$170, \$140, \$210. DF: £750. CSF: £952

LT: EXDU. CSF: EMS2.
3.10: 1. NORTH TYNE (A F McCoy) 9-4 jt.
5ar; 2. Jazz Dobo 8-1; 3. Ezanak 9-4 jt. tav.
12 ran. 1/s, 7. (A Alner, Blandford Forum).
Toba: £280; £190, £250, £100. DF: £2400.
CSF: £2039.

CSP: 22.05 1-40: 1. 25TORM CASTLE (D Gallagher) 5-4 fav; 2. Mester Restus 11-2; 3. Longstone Lad 68-1. 12 ran. Hd, 23. (D Arbuthnot, Compton) Totale 22.00; \$10, \$220, \$520, DF: \$580, CSF: \$802.

4.10: 1. COUNTRY STORE (R Johnson) 8-1;

2. The Cockertoo 5-8 fav; 3. Ragamuti 7-1. Gran. Sht-hd, 8½. (M Pipe, Wellington). Total: £720; £180, £140, £180, DF: £580, ČSF: £1158

House: 2000. cm; Americana. 4.40: 1. NORLANDIC (R Widger) 4-5 fav; 2. Mieter Generosity 14-1; 3. Golden America 12-1, 12 ran. 174, 8. (P Hobbs, Mirehead). Toles: \$107. \$10. \$230, \$420. DF: \$240. CSF-£1199. Tricast: \$8301.

Today's card at Leicester has

been abandoned due to water-

FIRST SHOW

WOLVERHAMPTON 3.30

Tankresse 3-1 3-1 3-1 7-2 3-1

Tallulata Balle 5-1 9-2 4-1 4-1 9-2

St Warrend 7-4 7-4 8-1 7-1 7-1

mate 51 64 64 92 64

91 71 74 74 84

81 81 10-1 8-1 10-1 Min Symptony 12-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1

2: 21 141 21 21

201 141 141 141 18-1

ood Rame 21 141 21 21 11

Cheerini Gross 33-1 25-1 33-1 23-1 25-1

Each-way a fifth the octob, places 1, 2, 3

C Coral, H William Hill, L Lachsoles, 9 Stanley, T Total

C H L B

Tricast: £3505. NR: Americanval.

Placepot: £840. Quadpot: £310. Place 6: £285. Place 5: £2.53.

Cast: £45.87.

lan Devies

### NEWTON ABBOT

HYPERION 3.10 Rockforce (nb)

2.10 Jack Tanner 3.40 Grangewood King 2.40 BLAZING STORM (nap) 4.10 Christchuch 3.10 Rockforce (nb) 4.40 Isls Dawn

National, but injury intervened,

and his only race since was the

Tommy Whittle Chase at Hay-

was a tired fourth to Suny Bay.

"He'll be fitter this time,"

GOING: Heavy.

Left-hand, sterp, course with short run-in.

Course is N of town on A380. Newton Abbot station im. ADMISSION: Tatterselfs fit; Course £5. Accompanied under-fiss free. CAR PARK; On rais £2, remainder free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 99-358 (227%), P Hobbs 56-184 (304%), P Micholia 55-52 (23%), R Frost 25-348 (tol %), K Bailey 12-47 (255%), G Baiding 10-48 (205%), LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 65-214 (22.2%), R Dunwoody 45-136 (33.1%), J Frost 25-201 (119%), C Maude 9-12 (161%), T Murphy 17-62 (27.4%).

FAVOURITIES: 296-676 (43.8%).

LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS; Glacial Missille (440) has been sent 225 miles.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Blazzing Storm (2.40), Amothebambo (2.40), River Midligan (2.40).

ſ	gan	KAUL					
ļ	2	.10	SAPPHIRE & added 2m 1	DIAMOND N	OVICE CHASE by Value \$2,69	(CLASS	E) £4,00
	12345	012-02 0/ 2012/	PLEETING MANUA JACK DANNER (78	(8) (D) (Nick Strats CTE (712) (Mrs P.S IS) (317) (Lady Han	ns) H Mannes 9 11 5. Nee K Marks 7 11 5. newood) J S Moore 7 is) Miss V Willers 10 1	11 5	V Shilley \
ı	5	P-4346	SCAPILET RANGE	ER (61) (R C Burnd	gel R Prost 10 11 5	T	COMMEN (7)

= 5 declared = BETTING: 2-5 Jack Tannet, 2-1 Fighting Times, 35-1 others

FORM GUIDE Classic trusge: Winning selling funder five seasons sons and probably best watched on chasing debut Flohima Times: Former selling hunder, James and probably best watched on chasing debut sons ago. Ughtly raced necent see-Phyliting Times: Former setting hunder, Jumped moderately and flattered when bir 8 lengths by Fortris Resie Dewn at Leicester on chase debut (2m1f nov, soft) Fleeting literateite: Promise on only hunder stent for Nick Henderson two years ago (30,000gns buy) but has clearly heat training problems. First run for new year, Jack Timner: Beet subjectured Champion Hundle winner Maiss A Stand a distantor at Uttoestor on fourth hunder sten in 1995, but has been stdellned for two years. Sure to be well achooled and rade fit on chase debut for new year. Scarlet Resubter: Winning hunder, but sets and slow in four chase offorts. Bin 68 lengths when last of 8 to North Barnister at Elegan (2m hosp, good) latest MCCDDCC.

VERDICT: It is difficult to oppose JACK TANNER, who looked a smart hurdes prospect for David Nicholson three years ago and probably has only to put in a clear round to make a successful chaning debut. Fighting Times is the best of the rest. 2. Westalde Flyer 5-2; 3. Hiddle 8-1, 5 ran. Hd. 11/s. (G L Moore), Tota: £240; £130, £150. DF: £640, CSP; ££16. 3-20: 1. WAITING KNIGHT (P McCabe) 100-30; 2. Wild Thing 5-2 fay; 3. Lucky Nerro 10-1.7 ran. 2½, 4. (Mrs N Macaulay). Tota: 5520; 2550, £100 DF: 5380. CSF; £121.

100-30; 2. Wild Triling 5-2 fav; 3. Lucky Nemo 10-1 7 ran. 21/s, 4 (Mrs N Macauley). Tota: 5520; 5250, 500, DF: 5380, CSF; 51(2).	2.40 REDSKINS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) 52,900 added 2m 6f Penalty Value \$2,215
3.50: 1. AOUTE (A Clark) 3-1; 2. Anototio 8-1; 3. Mulcarraio 7-4 fax, 6 man. 1/s, 1/s, (G Whappi	1 05423 BLAZING STORM (13) (Chiddleworth Partnership II) C Eperton 7 11 10
Tote: \$450; \$180, \$2.80, \$110, DF: \$2530, CSF: \$2582. Bicast: \$4981. After a stawards' inquiry, placings unaltered.	FORSE CRAZY CRUSADER 59 (A E Frost) O Gendallo 7 10 12 D Louity  5 6FU-PF OTTER RIVER (46 (O J Carter) O Carter 10 10 8
4.20: 1. HALF TIDE (R Cochrane) 2-1 fav; 2. Haydin James 5-1; 3. Harvey White 11-	8 /GP-50 RIMER MULLISAN (295 (Gener Heaving I) Hewhor 7 10 6
2. 11 ran. Nk, hd. (P Mitchell, ). Tota: \$2.30; \$2.20, \$1.40, \$1.70. DF: \$7.10. CSF: \$11.50. TH-	9 0P-SP FLICKERING LIGHT (M) (Mrs.) E Hundrig Mrs.) Hundrig 8 0 0 J. J. Mages 10 3-P005 MUSIC CLASS (26) (Hunse Avery Recing Cub) R Balor 8 10 0 J. J. Y Statlery G

10 3-P005 MUSIC CLASS (96) (Furest Assey Recing Cub) R Beter 6 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_ V Stationy G 11 -04023 REMEMBER STAR (6) (General Duckharen Stud A O Smith 9 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_ G Supple (5) — 11 declared — Africand veright: 10st True handloop weights: Cheny Fie Set 13th, Filotoning Light Set 12th, Music Class b, Remember Star Og 62. ING: 7-4 Blazing Storm, 3-1 Crazy Cruseder, 6-1 Remember Star, 7-1 Cherry Pie, 10-1 Amoth-to, 12- River Mulliges, 16-1 Other River, 28-1 others

Going: Good to Soft 1.40: 1. SALAMAH (J Osborne) 4-5 ter; 2. Explain This 11-4; 3. Fether Krismus 5-2. 14 ran. 5. 5 (C Egertor, Creddeworth, Rote: C180: \$10, £10, £170. DF: £280. CSF: £306. FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE

Blazing Storm: Bumper where in Intend. Mode a promising reappearance after miseing less season when 2nd to Castle Dawn (winner since) in December (2nSt, soft).
Binisered first time and good chance in this modest event
Amothebembor. Now with his 3rd trainer sinter only 7 outings. Fair 3rd on hunding
debut and first run for new yard at Lingfield (2nSt, soft) in December, but has looked
reluctuart less? 2 outings and binisered first time
Sendorant in-end-out performes, but mostly poor form in novice hundies and bumpers.
Tries this trip for the first time and looks a doubtful stayer
Creazy Creaseder: Was never going well when pulled up at Warwick (2nSt, soft) lest
time. Seet effort this season when 2nd to Granty Bell at Hereford (2nSt, good to
soft) in December. Unrefable, but in the right grade here 10-30; 2-Curiys FLVL DF: 2280 CSF: 5306 2-10: 1. LZZYS FIRST (M A Fitzgerald) 10-30; 2-Curiys Guest 6-4 fav; 3. Guru Ringoche 50-1 12 ran, 3%, 6. (6 Fi Milman, Caliompton) Toba: 5490; 5140, 51490 0F: 6350. CSF: 6220, Ticast: 619824. 2.40: 1. NORTH KILKENNY (R Widge) 100-30; 2. Native Filing 7-4 far; 3. Nordic Breeze 4-1, 14 ran. 7, 2%. (R Alner, Bland-

Other River: Desaurous record under Roles and in point-to-points and has completed the course just 3 times in 10 starts. Only form when detaint 3rd to Tamenndo at Exthe course just 3 times in 10 starts. Only from when detaint 3rd to Temerands at Exeter (2m71 nonce hurdle, good) in May.

River Metiligent: Selling husder, appeared not to stay the trip when taled off 7th of
11 to Top Siopper (Blanke Cleas 5m) at Taunton (2m, good to soft) lest time. 3th to
Head Gardaner in a seller that month and wit need to sham to that level.

Welled Dancer: Has depoped down the hendade following poor performances this
season and 8to lower than when falling to a slight lead 4 out at Exeter (2\*en, soft) in
November. Taled off need time and armitisus partner unable to clean
Cherry Pier. No show in 2 bumpen, but like that effect over hurdles when 4th (besten 38 lengths) to Christon at Forthwell (2\*en, good to soft) in April. Has taled to confirm that promise in 3 outings (failed off list trive) this season

Filickering Light: No force less season for Peter Beaumont and sold for just 700gns
in May. First sign of stalidy when 5th of 15 to Pablob, Jet in a selling hurdle at Teurson
(2m31, good to soft) in December. Pushed of 6th of 15 behind Top Supper at Teurson (2m,
good to soft) in December. Pushed on the first harding light (5th, beaten 15\*) langths) by

When 8th (beaten 45 lengths) to Pablos Jet them previous run

Remember Start: Selling hurdler and always behind on chasting debut at Teurson (2m31, good to soft) in December. Stayed on to firish 3rd to Forthe Rosie Dawn at Laicel
ber 2m11, now in cap chase, soft) last three and worth persenvering with one fances

VERDICT: Comnections of 8t.Azzinis STORBet must be delighted with the purpout

are gent that in cap chase, son) less arrelated worm person event was over lesses VERDICT: Connections of BLAZING STORM russ be delighted with the sumout for this race which is virtually a select and he will be luckly to find an action opportu-nty, Charlie Eigenton's seven-year-old may lack a turn of foot, but it bickland for the first time and his second to Castle Deam on the reappearance at Husbingdon on Bos-ing Day is fair in advance of anything this field have achieved.

3.10 NEWTON ABBOT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 2m 110yds Penalty Valua £3,599

Minimum weight: 10st. True beneficep weight: Benjamin Lancauter Set 6th.
BETTING: 11-8 Rockforce, 5-2 Elegant Des Connus, 11-2 Northurn Saddler, 8-1 Robbins Pride,
12-1 Hold Your Ranks, 18-1 Northurn Sloger, 20-1 Benjamin Lancauter FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Rockforce: Has made an excellent start over fences, writing twice over 2to (soft). Takes on more experienced opposition and made a few mistakes when warring confidents by at Ludow (2th, good to soft) lest moret, but still exproving Problem Prides: Outre consistent, over the trip, but on a 7th higher mark than when wirring at Wincarton (2th, soft) in December. Soon dropped out under pressure when 4th (beston 25 lengths) to Buckland Lad at Kempton (2th, soft) last time Elegant Des Cosses: Winning hurder and also successful over tences (2th) in the Rench provinces in 1896-7. Plenty to do at the weights when 8th to yesterdey's lisuation winner Lizzys First at Elesse (2th), to 15th in December. Hold Your Rambor. Course specialist and has won 9 times over hurdes and fences here at distances up to 2thm. Yet to strike form the season and back on the mark he won off here (2th), soft) in March. Northern Singer: Winn 3 times at around this trip in 1997. Lost touch offer the 4th when saled out 5th of 7 behind Country Star at Falsantium (2th, good to soft) last month and only 5th better off with Northern Sacider (2th, beaten 2 lengths). Northern Sacider: Useful 2th handlesper in his day, but post his beat. Still capable of whitning at one of the smaller meetings and 42th lower than when landing his lant success at Ascot (2th, good to soft) 3 years ago. Benjamin Lancaster: Veteran chase, has not won since November 1996 and has been dropped 25th in the weights since then Lucky 2th (3 thinled) to Another Deadly at Lingfled (2 linn, heavy) ast month and too slow for this trip now.
VEEDICT: Arise entry ROCKPORCE runs in the first handicap over fences and

Y at Displace (2nt) feety assistant and use sow for one or how VEHDICT: Arise entry ROCKPORCE runs in the first handicup over fences and though the jumping was not that fluent last time apent from Elegant Des Gosses he is up against some rivide who have seen before days. Quite a useful handicapper on the Plat for Mick Charmon, Rockforce should have too much pace for Elegant Des Cosses, who has won over fences in France.

3	.40	BANANA BOAT "NATIONAL HUNT" NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,900 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £2,173
1		BABY LANCASTER COS IN GREEN M GREEN 8 TI 5 M GREENS ES
2		GRANGEWOOD KING & A Kilpstrick) M Pipe 8 11 5 A P McCoy
	05	MARCLER (23) (G W Spancer) M Pipe 8 Ti 5C Maurie
4	100	MER PERFECTA (75) (D) AS P Burnard) R Front 8 11 6 J Prost
3	26-	WILLET WIZARD (331) (D G Septeral Mee V Septera 6 115Miles V Stephera
8	304	GRANKY FIRCH (76) OF M Rich P Rich 5 to 0
7	1P3/PP	SALES MORE PUN (33) (Martin HS) M HB 10 11 0
6	(D-07	SLK VESTMENTS (SE) (SF) (drs.) M F Ditters Mas Y Willers 7 TI Q H Williams
		- 8 declared -
BET	THE TI-	10 SDk Vestments, 15-8 Grangewood Klog, 5-1 Mainler, 12-1 Mr Perfects, 33-1 others

FORM GUIDE

Baby Lancaster: Little sign of ability in bumpers and hurdes. Talled off 5th of 6 to Gasetsur IV at Lingfield (2m min, heavy) on listest start.

Grangewood King: First cuting for this Kings Ride gelding out of a bumper blaced mitre. Looks Pipe first string affect of super-enced stablemate. Market bett guide Malniller: Some bromset on hurdes debut at Fontewil (2m21 not, 50th, recovering from messita to be 28 lengths 5th of 15 to Homme De Fer Likely improver. Mir Perfects: Bumper winner here in July but planty to find on hurdes statut 22 lengths. This of it Elegant Des Cosses at Easter (2m11 not, 50od to 5oth).

White Witzend: Talled off both bumper starts last term, hurdes debut (2mns) pitch: Some ability in bumpers but haled off both hurdes starts, the latest whon, weakened 3 out, 12th of 16 to Antadon Lad at Witreack (2m not, 50od).

Billies More Funt: Ex-pointer Little sign of shifty when pulled up in hurde and a chase at Easter lest two starts.

Sitik Vestinestic Confirmed promise of Worcester 5 lengths 2nd to Time For A Class withou, heropered field, can on, bit neck by My fam at Vencanton, but she looks vuller.

VERDICT: SILK VESTMENTS was hampered at Wiccanton, but she looks vul-numble to a newconer of ability. That could be Grangewood King, who gets Yony McCoy's wate over Mehaller, whose Fontwell debut revealed a glompe of ability.

4.10 WINNING POST RESTAURANT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m 2f 110yds Penaity Value £2,684

= 4 declared = SETTENG: 5-4 Absolutic, 7-4 Christolysecu, 5-2 Alich Tycoco, 20-1 Divina Chance

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Hitch Tycoon: Maste a good start to his chasing career when winning a novices handloop at Worcester (27-m), soft in November. Lost touch after a mestake at the 11th
when tailed off at Urtoester (27-m), soft in November. Lost touch after a mestake at the 11th
when tailed off at Urtoester (27-m), soft in het brie and capable of better
Attendated, Kept on well from 2 but to win a competitive in cigh left at Keptition (3m,
soft lest month. Chasing debut and looks sure to stay this longer trip.
Christichsards, Madden hurdle winner at Towcester (3m%), good lest seeson, but has
fallen both starts over fences. Rallying and only 2 lengths down when falling at the
final fence at Warwick (27-m, soft) last month and prospects if jumping better.

Nature Character Rose for the final burdler. Lost triple 7 but sees to be to be at other or the control of the control Divine Chance! Poor form in saling hurdes. Lost touch 7 out when a distant last of VERDICT: Assistate will be suited by this stamma test on his first outing over fences, but it may be worth giving another chance to CHRISTCHURCH. He was only two lengths down and staying on when he came to greef at the final tence in a well contested novice chase won by Samuel Wälderspin at Warwick last month.

4.40 IRISH CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLI (CLASS F) E3,000 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £2,243 429728 DISTANT STORM (13) (D) (D H DISCO® 8 Lievellyn 9 £0	
2 425P- MEAD COURT (336) (D) (3F) (H J Mannes) H Mannes 9 11 8	
2 425P- MEAD COURT (336) (D) (3F) (H J Mannes) H Mannes 9 11 8	,
R Widow	
SPECIAL MICCOLE COM CO Commo D Domes S to 7	
I S08333 HBSH LUTT (USA) (T3) (US I) R Jones II Jones II 10 12 J Moglerd (3)	١.
045 CARRAD CYMRU (14) (Mrs Richard Shares) R Evens 5 108 O McPhall	
0000-P KARACHI (25) 67 G Frost) R Frost 9 10 0 T O'Compor (3)	i
- 7 declared -	

ininsum weight: 10st. Tose handicap weight: Keischi Ast 10s. ETTIMG: 9-4 Inle Denth, 7-2 Gleckel Misselle, 4-1Distant Storm, High Low, 6-1 Carted Cymru.

FORM GUIDE

Distant Storme Huntingdon winner from #b lower in March, but in handicapper's grip istely and not quicken when respectable 5 lengths 3rd of 7 to Vent D'Acut at Taumon (2mit hosp, heavy) latest. All winning form on good ground

Meed Court: Lightly reced since Taunton malden win 3 years ago. Pair 5th of 11 to Been 81 Habeeb at Bengor (2mit hosp, good) last Feb trom 8th higher but pulled up when tavourite for Plumpton seller next time and has not raced sance. Best watched late Dewin: Placed from 17b higher test season and creditable 3 lengths 4th to Sease The Day at Wincaraton (2mit) point tests season and creditable 3 lengths 4th to Sease The Day at Wincaraton (2mit) looked less than fully enthusiastic.

The put Mitselfie: Placed seven times in eight sterta. Good effort under weiter weight when 8 lengths 3rd of 7 to Inclination at Follestone (2mit) hosp, heavy) latest and should not be far away from 1th lower.

High Low: 39th below best winning mark, but showed himself no back-number when always prominent 3 lengths 3rd of 19 to Coble at Ludlow (2m self hosp, soft). Carried Cyanur Prominent throughout when 22 lengths 5th of 17 to Gernstone at Huntingdon (2m nov, soft), Handicap debut and open to suppromeent.

Karnachi: Yet to make the placings in nine starts and has been tailed off lest two outings, the leaset behind Sandants in an Exeter seller.

VERIDICT: There may be value in CABIAD CYMRU, who has had only the nec-FORM GUIDE

VERDICT: There may be value in CARIAD CYMRU, who has had only the necessary three races to qualify for a handicap mark and ran as though open to improvement in a decent novice event at Huntingdon. He acts on a testing surface.

### WOLVERHAMPTON

HYPERION 1.30 Society King 2.00 Frederick James 2.30 Mary Jane 3.00 King Priam 3.30 Thekryasti 4.00 Sand Storm, 4.30 Seren Teg

Saind Storm, 4.30 Seren leg

GORNG: Standard.

STALLS: 77 outside – remainder inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low to middle best for 75.

Efbrasand, left-trend, ovel course.

Course is N of town on A449. Wolvertempton station fm.

ADMISSION: Cub 5:5; Tatterselle 28 622 off for OAP members of Diamond Cub); Restaurant pockage priose 5:750 to 235.95 including course entrance and meal CAR PARK: free.

PVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hollineteed 07-581 (1994) N Johnston 49-90 (1924), N Libertoden 46-345 (133%), P Evene 40-381 (123%), Deen McKeown 38-299 (1274), J Weever 34-200 (173), D Holland 31-93 (233%), BLADING JOCKEYS: S Sanders 43-31 (133%), Deen McKeown 38-299 (1274), J Weever 34-200 (173), D Holland 31-93 (233%), BLADINGERED FIRST TIME: Lowe Opera (visored, 200), Candegetyourbreath (visored, 4.30), Polly Hills (4.30).

1.30 CHIVE MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS E) (Div I) £4,000 added 7f

logging, but racing at Newton Abbot looks set to go ahead for the first time since early December.

1	22-032	2 ARC (14) (BF) F Jordan 5 9 TI	_R Perhant 5
2	/3000-	SOCIETY IGNG (127) J Barks 4 6 4	Cochage 10
3	35300-	- TECHRUCIAN (108) É Alsten 4 9 1	J Quina 4 B
4		STRAVSEA (5) 6 Baugh 46 13	
5	4000-6	6 MANKATO (USA) (11) G Congroup 5 6 7G Fa	AMERICA (3) 6 Y
6	063-05	5 SCHMLATING SOUND (149 S Bowring 4 6 6	_F Norton 11
7	052-60	O FEARLY QUEEN (15) G Bravery 4 5 2	A Poll (3) 3
6	35000/	V SHARP HOLLY (600) M Bradstock 7 7 10	.T South 59 9
9	4005-0	O TOWNWILLE CEE CEE (32) G Woodward 47 10_	_P Feeesy 1
1	30500-	- AVERHALI STAR (196) D Śraw 4 7 10	G Bardwall 7
T	006-00	O FLYING TOUCH (16) M Literacijin 47 10R	Thomas (7) 2
		- 11 deciared -	
М	PRINCIP WE	reight: 7st 10b. True handicup weights: Sharp Holly 7s	(SO, IOMINE
a	M Cae 7s	at 7th, Avertism Star 1st 6th, Flyton Touch 7st 3th.	

FORM VERDICT

This race revolves around TECHNOCIAN, who has a fine chance on his best form off what is a good handcap mark and who named no his one previous by hare. The only sight negative is his absence since October. Pearly Queen is a bigger-priced

2.00 CHIVE MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV II) £4,000 added 71 4530 WAITING HONGHT (1) (EF) May N Macasay 49 10 Mot qualited 5 V 4-4533 PREDERICK JAMES (5) H Haynes 5 8 5 — H Hardin 3 53202- PRODIGAL SON (109) May Y Ward 49 1 — N Polland (5) 10

4 0050-2 LOVE OPERA (7) J Burry 4 8 8 P Feavy 9 V 5 0040-0 DE-WOLF (18) F Madri 4 8 8 A Clark 8 V 6 00550- LESLEY'S ADVENTURE (179) E Abton 4 8 4 J Cultim 4 7 0050-0 HOSLE PATRIOT (21) R Holinstread 4 8 2 P M Cairin (7) 8 00550-0 TIALIAN ROSE (18) A Cairol 4 7 10 A Polit (3) 1 9 00500-0 FALKENSERG (PR) (16) 8 Passos 4 7 10 G Bardwill 2 8 10 0000-0 RED RISK (7) 5 Kinght 4 7 10 P Bradley (7) 8 -10 declared - P Bradley (7) 8 Marinum resignit: 7st 10b. Time handley weights: Falkenburg 7st 7fb, Red

ress (at. 36). BETTRICK 5-2 Love Opera, 7-2 Predeckt Jesses, 5-1 Prodigal Sos, 8-1 Lee-ley's Advertion, Hobie Patrick, 8-1 Italian Ross, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT

FORM VEHIDICT

LOVE OPERA is the pick of the weights on less weeks improved second here and though the earls furing is a elight worry - as a the application of a fast-time view - nothing else meles enough appear to the application of a fast-time view - nothing else meles enough appear to the prevented James has obvious claims, but at Rely odds Italian Rose makes more appear as an al-

2.30 SAGE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £2,750 added 5f

— 6 declared — BETTING: 11-4 Bold Frontes, 7-2 Pride Cf Britani, Tsojan Girl, 7-1 Mary Jene, 6-1 Mellaurita, Little Ibre, 14-1 Featherstone Lane, 16-1 Milly Norman FORM VERDICT Plenty of possibilities here. It is not inconceivable that Trojen Gaf could reverse recent course running with Bold Frontier. Pride Of British and Little Boar now she has stronger handing again, but perhaps it is worth following IMARY JANE. Mo worth a handicap here last week in the style of an improved per-

3.00 THYME HANDICAP (CLASS C) 29,000 added 1m 4f

FORM GUIDE

FORM VERDICT

FORM VERDICT 

HIGWAR, a Zettand Gold Cup witner as a 3yo, is taking a huge step up in class efter running away with a couple of sellers on sand. However, cornections have stumped up serious money to keep in his time auctions and presumitify must be confident of better to come from what may be a tenient mark, chica Castle has been in sparking form, but this mark may be his undoing and he is not certain to confirm superiority over rang Prison, who ran amother fine race at Southwell last week.

3.30 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 1m 1f 79yds

Threadweedisc Returning to best trip after staying on 1/s length 3rd of 12 to Sicce Blavica at Lingfield (7 hosp), but 10th higher from hose winning mark and yet to show best from on fibreasand itsafian Symphony: Six-time course weres, but weighted up to best these days and 18th higher than less thenclap with here in Sept. Creditable 2 lengths 6th of 12 to Sicce Blavice at Unglield (7 hosp) lasest after running wide into straight. Be Warmed: Sack to best thip after last 5 lengths 4th of 12 to Christ Castile here (Im4f hosp), but looks exposed 11th higher than best all-weather with

Christ Castle here (Im4f Incap), but looks exposed 11th higher tran best all-weather win Dismond Flamer; has not progressed since winning first two all-weather starts last Spring. Well held by Be Warned on latest running behind Chris Castle here. Jibernen: Southwest im claimer winner lest month end stoying on when bin 1 langth by Pas De Mernarles over this C&D next start. Welghed to best Be Warned and testion. Symphony on that form and could go close. Tablatet Ballet Promising return after five-month lay-off when staying-on bin 1½ lengths by Sustach over the C&D last month. Possibly best saled by signall series but fixely to be it major player with yard in the form. Prozdement: Dual Beverley 1m2f winner in August. Fair effort under tender handling after 3-month lay-off when 9 lengths 5th of 15 to Ontria Castle at Southwell (Im 3f hosp) latest but harshly treaded on balance of A/W handlesp farm. Bowelfire: C&D winner from 10b lower 35 months ago and Donzester Im winner in Sept. Sets watched on first outing since Oct Theirquand: Form of latest 1/singth win own Hugwity here (im hosp) working out well. Refetively unexposed and likely to benefit from longer try here.

Swift: Losing run stretches back 19 months. Life prospect of turning the tide on latest 2 lengths 5th of 10 to 5th Weless at Southwell (trin hosp).

Cheerful Groom: Three-time course winner, latest from 7th higher. Well beaten at Southwell last week on recurn from 6-month lay of Probably beat watched.

VERDICCT: The hospitalists.

lay off. Probably best welched:

VERDICT: The handcapper appears to have taken a chance with THERPYAATI. Mark Johnston's lightly-raced cold has hed his tribial Lingfield win boosted by Such Boldness and his takes course win here was franked by Hugwry last week-and. He looked open to improvement over a longer trip last time and should be fargiven his previous effort here, when he was incoded out of the race early on. Discrean and Biblioth Bette appear the two most firsty to trouble him.

4.00 MARJORAM SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 3YO 67 

Sand Storm is sure to come on for her debut effort at Ling-field and may be the one to profit if WIET U THERE talls to cope with this drop back in trip. Reg Hollingheed's runner is a out above this opposition on his good third to Baron de Pichon over 77 here lest month.

4.30 OREGANO HANDICAP (CLASS D) \$5,250 added 3YO 6f

231-5 SCARLETTS BOY (25) (CD) (SIF) M Letnoder 8 7

24-515 POLLY MILLS (S) P Exams 9 4 T G Mol. Josphin 9

24-515 POLLY MILLS (S) P Exams 9 4 Dense Offwall 4 G

04-42 SERIEN TEG (27) (CD) 6 Paling 8 2 G Faulitater (3) 8

04-44 CARCHTHEASTACH (18) (D) E Whosler 9 1 Carson (7) 7

40-20 DIALETTO (170) E Alston 8 7 July 20 Carson (7) 7

40-20 BOILETTO (170) E Alston 8 7 July 20 Carson (7) 7

40-20 BOILETTO (170) E Alston 8 7 July 20 Carson (7) 7

40-20 BOILETTO (170) E Alston 8 7 July 20 Carson (7) 7

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# 'I'm staying in Spain,' says Juninho

tion yesterday that that he is on his way to Middlesbrough in a £10m move from Atletico Madrid Boro's manager, Bryan Robson, claimed at lunchtime he was confident the Brazilian would return to the Riverside Stadium, but Juninho later said he has no immediate plans to leave Spain. The midfielder did not rule out a move from the

Vicente Calderon stadium in

the summer, however, "I am staying m Madrid, I don't know anything about a Middlesbrough press conference," he said. "But I am staying here for now. I'm staying for the summer After that I don't know. My head is very confused. One minute I'm staying; one minute I'm going. It's been mad

FOOTBALL

BY ALAN NIXON

pher Wreh and Alberto Mendez are joining AEK Athens in Greece for the rest of the season. Wreh scored vital goals last season but has failed to make an impact in this campaign. Winger Mendez has also been squeezed

out and the Spaniard knows his

best chance of first-team football is away from Highbury. Rob Jones will sign for West Ham today from Liverpool in a cut-price transfer and collect a lucrative contract. The former England right-back has agreed terms on a deal worth in excess of fim a year to become the Hammers' third signing in the space of a week

Last night the clubs were The Arsenal pair Christo-deciding on the fee, believed to

### Magpie Hamann in frame to face Leeds

NEWCASTLE HAVE SUCCESSfully appealed to the German authorities to allow Dietmar Hamann to miss international duty and play instead in Saturday's Premiership match against Leeds. The 25-year-old was due to fly to the United States with his national side for two friendly matches. Newcastle will still be without Alan Shearer and Nikos Dabizas be-Lause of suspension.

Hamann, the former Bayern Munich player, signed by Kenny Dalglish for £4.5m during the summer, appears to have resolved his differences with Newcastle's manager, Rund Gullit, and has been a regular alongside Gary Speed in central midfield in the absence of the injured skipper Rob Lee.

into the international squad, but ne earns nis money nere," Guilit said. "He has to adapt to English football first and his chances with the national team will come from there."

Hamann is seen as a future German captain, but he recently expressed his disquiet at his lack of first-team chances at Newcastle, hinting that he could leave Tyneside at the end of the season.

The player insists that an interview he gave to a German magazine, in which he is said to have spoken of a dressingroom split, was taken out of context. "They wrote in England that I said something against the English players, that the English players were in one part of the bus or the dressing room and the foreigners in the other," he said in an interview in the Aston Villa programme.

"But I said that is normal because of the language, and the fact that we live with some of 'He's very eager to get back them at the hotel. I was taken out of context. But I have talked to the ma ger and told him there was never a problem Stuttgart and a team made up of with the other players. There former team-mates from Interhas never been a problem - and nazionale, Tottenham, Monaco there will not be in the future." and Bayern Munich.

be around £300,000 - a moderate price because Jones is out of contract at the end of the season.

Mark Hughes is not for sale at any price, Southampton's manager, Dave Jones, said yes terday. The move follows reports that Everton might be about to take the 35-year-old former Chelsea and Manchester United striker to aid their fight against relegation.
Sheffield Wednesday have

serious foul play, bringing down Derby's 19-year-old striker Malcolm Christie just outside the means Stricek will miss the FA Cheisea or Oxford, the Premiership clash at Blackburn and a potential Cup replay.

Wednesday's manager,

prospective new owner.

tor, Keith Cox, resigned yesper cent shareholding.

terday that he planned to settle in the United States to give his child a normal life. Klinsmann said he was organising a match on \$1 May to mack his retirement permeen ex-players from VIB

asked the Foothall Association to review the nature of goalkeeper Pavel Stricek's red card during Saturday's 1-0 defeat at home to Derby Smicek was sent off in the 57th minute by David Elleray for area. The charge carries an antomatic three-match ban and Cup fifth-round tie at home to

Damy Wilson, hopes to have the charge reduced to denying the player a goalscoring opportunity, which means a one-game ban.

Oxford have been boosted on the eve of their FA Cup fourth round replay with Chelsea by the news that a wealthy hotelier has been fined up as the club's The club's managing direc-

terday so as not to let allegations against him obstruct the cash-strapped club pursuing fresh investment. with a hotelier, Firoz Kassam, having signed an agreement giving him an option to buy former chairman Robin Herd's 89 Jürgen Klinsmann said yes-



ficially the richest club in the world. The Old Trafford outfit dwarf every other side, including the elite of Italy and Spain, when it comes to earnings

A survey conducted by the chartered accountants, Deloitte & Touche, in conjunction with the football magazine FourFourTwo showed that United's turnover in the season ended in 1997 was £87.94m. That figure is nearly £30m more than second-placed Barcelona, whose turnover for the same etiog was £58.87ml

MANCHESTER UNITED are of- Ferguson's transformation of the side in the 1990s.

"Obviously we run the club very much as a husiness, but everything emanates from the football side," Edwards said yesterday.

Gerry Boon, the chairman of Deloitte & Touche's Football Industry Team, said: "Manchester United is one of the most famous brands in the world. Despite having smaller crowds than some of its Italian and Spanish rivals, it still earns more income."

Matt Tench, the editor of FourFourTwo, said United's ions' League. The United chairman, Mar-marketing success is quite rebuilt on the back of Alex they can sell replica shirts to £31.66m turnover.

kids in the Far East who probably don't even know where Manchester is," he said.

The Premiership has five clubs in the world's 20 richest clubs, and after the Old Trafford side the most affluent English side are Newcastle United, in eighth place with a turnover of £41.13m. Liverpool are ninth on £39.15m, Tottenham 16th on £27.87m and Arsenal 20th on

These standings are based on financial results prior to the Gunners winning the Double and competing in the Champ-

Rangers are the only Scottin Edwards, claimed the club's markable. "It's a mark of Man- tish team in the top 20, and they miles from war-torn Chechcommercial empire has been chester United's success that were ranked 14th with a

#### RICHEST CLUBS 1 Man Utd ... £87,94m £58.87m 2 Barcelona 3 Real Madrid ..£55.66m 4 Juventus .... .£53.22m £51.62m .£47.48m Bor Dortmund .. ....£42.2m 8 Newcastle Utd ... ...£41.13m 9 Liverpool .... £39.15m 10 Internazionale ...£39.07m 11 Flamengo ..... £37.42m 12 Atletico Madrid ....£32.38m 3 Parts St-Germain .... £31.7m 4 Rangers. £31.66m

£28.22m

£27.87m

..£27.8m

£27.76m

£27.33m

FOOTBALL'S

20 Arsenal £27,16m Totals: annual turnover Eussia plan to play their European Championship qualifier against Andorra on 31 March in Vladikavkaz, just 35 spokesman said yesterday.

coach, Zinzan Brooke, who had

### Threat made by Branca to report Boro

MARCO BRANCA, the former Internazionale striker, has threatened to report Middlesbrough to Fifa, the game's governing body, over the club's refusal to allow him to resume his career with them.

Middlesbrough announced last month that the career of the 34-year-old was over because of a serious knee injury that had restricted him to 25 minutes of football this season. Branca, signed a year ago for £1m. scored on his Middlesbrough debut against Liverpool in the League Cup semi-final.

He scored nine more goals for the club including a hat-trick win promotion to the Premiership. However, since his knee nva a Russian Football Union surgery he has been a peripheral figure at the Riverside.

# Betrayal of British league dream Carling returns to Harlequins

THE LIGHTS went out on the great British league dream vesterday leaving English rugby juggling with another crop of political hot potatoes and Welsh rugby laying flat on its back in a sporting graveyard. Ninety nine per cent of the union population on either side of the Severn Bridge - the players, the coaches, the long-neglected supporters - found themselves betrayed by a tiny handful of selfish investors and failed administrators. Well done, gentlemen. Crack open

another bottle of red. Glanmor Griffiths, chairman of both the Welsh Rugby Union and the British league working party, officially rejected crossborder proposals by the English Premiership clubs at a meeting in Cardiff. After five months of diplomatic to-ing Griffiths wants to open talks and fro-ing it emerged that the with Ireland and Scotland in an and fro-ing, it emerged that the

#### RUGBY UNION BY CHRIS HEWETT

English had allocated their neighbours just five of the 30 places on offer: two clubs in a new first division and three in a second. Griffiths called the offer "demeaning", "dismissive" and "unacceptable". It was difficult to disagree.

But for all their principled resentment and righteous anger. Griffiths and his colleagues know they are now presiding over a domestic club game on the very brink of collapse. The refusal of Cardiff and Swansea to have anything to do with the WRU Premiership has brought the competition to its knees; it cannot attract an audience, let alone a big-money sponsor.

effort to launch a Celtic com- increasingly punitive IB fines petition, but all the crowd and over the programme of untelevision interest is centred on sanctioned matches involving the glamour pusses to the east. not the commoners to the north and west

Neither of the rebel Welsh

clubs are remotely interested have committed themselves to in going home, as it were, and their place in the anarchic matches. Had the English club scheme of things remains an intractable problem for both the WRU and the Rugby Football Union. The Welsh, who have just slapped a writ on Swansea for repayment of £1m the St Helens club has no means of finding, will decide next mouth whether to suspend or expel move that could render half the current national squad unavailable for Test rugby under International Board rules.

Meanwhile, Twickenham is

horses and agreed to an allinclusive conference-based tournament for next season, the problem would have been solved at a stroke. It was too much for Terry Cobner, the director of rugby in Wales, who confessed yesterday both teams from the union -a to a feeling of "utter despair" The national team coach, Graham Henry, ventured:

another full season of rebel

owners dismounted their high

"Common sense and logic will prevail eventually. Not that I would want to put a timescale contemplating the prospect of

SPORT APPEARS to be littered BY DAVID LLEWELLYN with reincarnations. The latest was at The Stoop Memorial Cardiff, Swansea and all 14 top-Ground yesterday when Harflight Allied Dunbar Premierlequins unveiled their latest reship outfits; according to the cruit - the former England two refuseniks, the English captain, Will Carling, who has signed to play for them until the end of the season.

> ago that Carling was walking out of the ground and the game, when he was half-way through a reported £130,000 contract. But since then, amid a welter of unwelcome publicity about his private life, it appears Carling began to suffer cold turkey for the liniment, sweat, and bonhomie of top club rugby.

"I've come down to watch Harlequins once or twice," said Carling, now 33, whose last match was in December 1997. Then three or four weeks ago

I went into the changing-room after a game and I just enjoyed the atmosphere. It was the first time I have missed that side of things. "I feel there is a little bit

of unfinished business for me. It only seems like 13 months I'd like my time at Quins to end on a high note." As opposed to the unhappy departure last January when be fell out with the then director of rugby, Andy Keast, and turned his back on the club after 152 Carling, who won 72 Eng-

land caps in the centre for England, stressed there was no financial motivation behind his decision. "If I was coming back for that I would have taken one of the other offers I have had. Money is not the reason," be said. "About 10 days age Quins"

been winding me up for a few months about playing again, came down with Bernie McCahill, his assistant, and John Gallagher, the manager, and we

15 Roma ....

17 Ajax ....

16 Tottenham

was flattered to be asked by people of that calibre." Carling went away to Japan on business, had his fitness tested and liked what he was told. He made up his mind, according to his agent, Chris Bromage, while he was on

level seven of the Nintendo game Super Mario Land. Now, 388 days after he left, Carring is back at the club, although his earnings are not expected to exceed £5,000 per match and could be less. Gallagher said the rest of the playing staff were unanimous in

welcoming Carling's return.

ager, Carling has lost little of his fitness. "When you have spent the best part of 12 years at the top you don't lose that conditioning," said the former All Black, "I would say he is about had a chat. They asked me if I was interested in re-signing. I 80 per cent fit right now." Carling claims he is 12 kilos lighter than when he last played for Quins. Quins have an Allied Dunbar

Premiership match at bome to leaders Leicester on Saturday, but Gallagher was extremely cagey about whether he would be drafted into the side so soon.

"This isn't marketing hype," said Gallagher, "this is a rugby decision. If we have injuries then, as a member of the squad, he will go in. But we will not put him on the bench this weekend simply as a publicity

### Service faults fail to stop Kournikova

ANNA KOURNIKOVA, still attempting to overcome a problem with her serve that affected her at the Australian Open, beat Germany's Anke Huber string of unforced errors. None 7-6 (7-4) 6-0 in the first round of the Pan Pacific Open yesterday. The Russian, seeded No 6,

opened with a pair of double faults in her first two service games in a set where both players managed to win just one service game each. "I wasn't nervous at all, but

I had to adjust to the surface, which is really quick. I was just go for my shots, she said.
In only her second visit to Japan, Kournikova Ving to hit the ball hard and In only her second visit to Japan, Kournikova, who overcame her singles disappoint-

ment to win the doubles title in

Australia with Martina Hingis,

says she feels more relaxed this time. "Winning the doubles in Australia has given me confidence, but it hasn't changed much. I still need more experience, but the more matches I play the higher my ranking will get."

### TENNIS

Huber let Kournikova off the hook in the first set with a was more costly than the double fault which the German

served at 4-4 in the tie-break. Kournikova, ranked 12th in the world, improved her serve in the second set and cruised to an easy win. The seventh seed, Amanda

Coetzer of South Africa, had a much easier time in her firstround victory over Magui Serna of Spain which she won 6-2 6-1. Coetzer will face Els Callens of Beignum in the second round. Callens won 6-3 6-1 against the American Kimberly Po.

Ai Sugiyama of Japan eased past Shi-ting Wang of Taiwan 8-2 6-3 to place her in an extremely testing second-round confrontation with Hingis, the second seed. Hingis, the top seed Lindsay

Davenport, the third seed Jana

Novotna and Monica Seles all

had first-round byes.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL Malter Payton, the former Chicago Bears running back, has been diagnosed as suffering from a rare disease. Mary Ortega, a spokeswoman for Payton, who retired in 1987 alter 13 seasons with the Bears, said he was suffering from a "rare disease.... It's not AIDS and it's not related to sterolds."

ATHLETICS

Sonia O'Sullivan yesterday revealed she may ignore this summer's World Championships in Seville to focus her training schedule on the 2000 Olympics. The Irish runner is mind-ful of the disappointment she felt after failing to finish in the 5,000 mercer. at the Advanz Games. after failing to finish in the 5,000 metres at the Atlanta Games through liness, having won both the European and world 3,000m and 5,000m titles in the preceding years. She has already opted to miss the forthcoming Northern Irelandhosted World Cross-Country Champlonships, in which last season she won both the 8km and 4km gold medals in a two-day period in Marakesh.

CRICKET

Two wrist spinners, Matthew Git-sham, from Somerset, and Geraint Bowers, from Powys, both 15, have been selected to travel on the Brian Johnston Trust scholarship to Australia in April. The youngsters will gain experience of bowling on Aus-tralian wickets as well as specialist Coaching from the former Australian leg-spinner Terry Jenner.

BUSTA CUP (Taind day of four):

Reseases: Jamaica 161 (M Persot 4-29)

and 230 for 7 (Persot 5-75); Unided and
Tobago 298 (D Mals 4-65).

GRAND PRIX DE LA MARSEILLAISE (140km, La Seyna-cur-mer to Gar-

danste, Fr): 1 F Vandenbroucke (Beij Condis 3hr 27min 25sec (ave speed: 40.295tpoh): 2 J Voigt (Sen) Credit Agn-colet 3 F Bessy (fr) Casino; 4 N Fritsch (Fr) Saint-Quentin all same time; 5 F de Waele (Beij Lotto +57sec; 6 J-M Thilloy (Fr) Saint-Quentin: 7 S De Wolf (Bei) Cofidis: 8 O Moncoutie (Fr) Condis: 9 P Forzaljo (Beij Condis +1 min 0) sec. 19 D Routs (Fr) Big Mat +1:03.

FOOTBALL

West Bromwich Albion plc an-nounced yesterday that Paul Thomprectors. Thompson helped raise E4.5m when the club floated on the Stock Exchange and is the largest single shareholder with more than 25 per cent of the shares.

Scotland's top 10 clubs have rejected an invitation to enter the interfoco Cup next season and earn a possible extra Uefa Cup place. The Scotish Premier League is not convinced about the worth of the competition and believes that extra matches in July would only increase fixture Colin Todd, of Boiton Wanderers, has

Colin fodd, of Bolton Wanderers, has been named the Nationwide Man-ager of the Month for January, Wan-derers won all three of their First Division marches during the first month of the year to leave them-selves handily placed for an imme-diate return to the Premiership after leave releasing. Kodh diate return to the Premiership after last year's relegation. Kevin Keegan has won the Second Division award after guiding Fulham to the top of the table during the month and securing two FA Cup glant-killings over Aston Villa and Southampton. Cambridge United's Roy McFarland has secured the Third Division title by taking his side to second in the table after remaining unbeaten in four League games, werning three and drawing one.

1998 FIFA PLAYERS OF THE YEAR:
1 Z Zidase (Unents/Fr) 518 votes [93]

SPORTING DIGEST first places, 15 second places, 8 third places); 2 Rossido (Internazionale/Bra) 164 115, 26, 11); 3 D Sulter (Real Madrid/Croa) 108 (6, 20, 18); 4 M Osses (Liverpoot/Eng) 43 (0, 8, 19); 5 G Sacissuta (Florentina/Arg) 40 (3, 6, 7); C Rimaido (Barcelona/Bra) 37 (1, 9, 5); e Rivaldo (Barcelona/Isra) > 1 1, 2, 3, 7 D Bergicamp (Arsena/Neth) 33 (1, 7, 7); 8 E Dandda (Ivvennis/Neth) 25 (2, 5, 1); 9 M Desalfy (Chebsa/Fr) 23 (6, 6, 5); 10 L Thurston (Barma/Fr) 14 (0, 2, 8); (132 national coaches voted. Five points

5): 10 L Therram (Parma/Fr) 14 (0, 2, 8):
(132 national cooches voted. Five points awarded for a first place, three points for a second place and one point for a third place).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION FIRST DIVISIONS Oxford O Wimbledon 1; Queen's Park Rangers 1 Barnet 2.

PONTINES LEAGUE Third Division: Hallfox Town 0 Wigan Athletic 2.

BONDARY'S LEXE RESCAL'S's FA Umbro Tropht third round Weston-super-Mare 2 Raunds 2. Taind-round replays Enlay 3 Shepshed Dynamo 1. Base tries Cap (fifth-round replays: Limusely 0 Colerane 1; Newry 2 Crusaders 3 (oxt), Represensative Macche FA XI 4 British Universities 0 (ox Saham). Posetties Langue Premier Divisions Blackburn 2 Leicester 1; Leed's 1 Everton 0. Avos Insurance Combination First Divisions Lutton 1 Bournemouth 0; Northampson 0 Chelsea 1; Reading 1 Colchester 0. Portuguese Leagues Vicoria Gulmardes 3 (Edmisson 29, Gilmsr 40, Rva Silva 61) Salgueiros 3 (Almeida 16, 90, Celso Silva 84). Franch League Cep second round: Monaco 0 Paris St-Germain 0 (oxt, PSG won 3-2 on perceites).

GOLF

WORLD RANKINGS (US unless stated): 1 T Woods 11.78 pts ave; 2 0 Dural 11.18; 3 M O'Weara 10.18; 4 0 Love II 9.64; 5 E Els (SA) 9.06; C L Westwood (GS) 8.85; 7 N Price (Zim) 9.80; C Montgomeric (GS) 8.70; 9 V Singh (Fill) 8.68; 10 J Furyh 7.50; 11 J Leonard 7.27; 12 P Michelson 7.16; 13 M Osaki (Epan) 6.77; 14 F Couples 6.53; 15 5 Eldington (Aus) 5.85; 16 D Clarke (GS) 5.85; 17 J Parnevik (Swe) 5.49; 18 6 Watts 5.23; 19 L Janzen 5.05; 20 T Lehman 5.02.

MHL: New Jersey 2 Detroit 2 (ot): Wash-Ington 3 NY Rangers 1: Philadelphia 4 Los Angeles 2: Dallas 2 Calgary 2 (ot): 5t Louis

4 Edmonton 3 (of): Ottawa 1 Vancouver 0: San Jose 5 Chicago 1.

RALLYING

d's suspension from the Monte Carlo Rally was confirmed yesterday by the appeals committee of motor sport's ruling body FIA. Ford were thrown out of the opening rally of the season before it started because of the water pumps on the new Ford Focus cars. But they were allowed to race under appeal and Colin McRae finished third.

RUGBY LEAGUE MONDAY'S LATE RESULT: SEE Cut. Challenge Cop third round: Oldham [12] 26 Eccles [7] 7. Oldhams Trias Meade 2, Brown, Cegg, Prescott, Goals Minut 3, Eccles: Try Rafferty, Goal Pickup, Drop Pickup, (Oldham at home to Dewsbury in Jourth round). fourth round).

RUGBY UNION R U G BY U N I O N

REELAND TEAM by France, in the Five
Nazions' Championship, Lansdowne
Road, Dublin, Saturdayj: C O'Shek
(London Irish); J Bishop (London Irish),
K Magge (Bath), J Bell [Dungarnon], G
Dempésy (Terènure College); D
Hunghreys (Dungarnor), C NicGelmants
(St Mary's College); P Clohessy (Young
Munster), K Wood (Harlequins), P Wallace (Saracens), P Johns (Saracens,
capt), J Danddson (Castres), E Rillier
(Rerenure College), D O'Calamengain
(Sale), V Costallo (Sc Mary's College), Replacements: R Henderson (Wasps), E
Elmood (Galvegiars), C Scally (UCD), T
Bremman (St Mary's College), Re
Permans (St Mary's College), Re
Sharnon), J Phopaetrick (Dungarnon), R
Nesdale (Newcastle).

BUSINESS PAGES HATIONAL CHAMP-HONSHIPS (Northern Club, Manches-ter): Men's first qualifying round: C Ryder (Herts) bt M Gibson (Lincs) 15-7 11-15 15-8 15-10: N Marthew (Yorks) bt R Cock (Lancs) 15-6 15-4 15-1; J Will-strop (Yorks) bt J Nardelli (Middlesex) 15-12 15-8 15-12; C Ewins (Dorset) bt P Williams (Notts) 15-12 15-11 15-9; E

McAlpine (Surrey) bt G Olby (Kent) 15-13
15-6 15-14; N Guirey (Yorks) bt O Patel (Lancs) 15-10 15-9 12-15 15-9; B Garher (Surrey) bt A Learnyd (Yorks) bt O Patel (Lancs) 15-10 15-9 15-15 15-9; B Garher (Surrey) bt A Learnyd (Yorks) 15-6 15-3
15-4; J Robbins (Kent) bt P O Johnson (Berks) (15-10 15-7 15-3; A Sevenson (Yorks) bt P Billson (Lancs) 15-9 15-12
15-11; S Townsend (Marks) to D Welghts (Essex) 15-9 15-2 15-5; Y Abbas (Devon & Cormont) bt A Spealman (Cheshire) 15-6
15-6 15-5; A Whitey (Cheshire) bt J Power (Lancs) 15-11 8-15 15-10 17-15; M Thorpe (Porks) bt A Stait (Glos) 15-13
11-15 15-5 15-9; L Jernmett (Essex) bt P Hornsoly (Lincs) 15-5 15-11 7-15 1512: N Wall (Yorks) bt P Asibury (Cheshire) 15-9 15-11 7-15; D A Grant (Kent) bt L Rawfins (Worcs) 15-6 12-15 15-7 15-1; D Brodbury (Works) 15-6 12-15 15-7 15-1; D Brodbury (Works) 15-6 12-15 15-7 15-11; D Brodbury (Works) 15-6 15-9 17-15; D Wash (Notts) bt G Ragou (Lancs) 15-13 12-15 15-8
15-6; P Barker (Essex) bt K Walker (Derby) 15-5 15-7 15-12; B Hicherman (Derby) 15-5 15-7 15-12; B Hic

Magnus Gustafsson was among three seeds to suffer early defeats to French opposition in the first round of the Marseilles Open yesterday. The Swede, seeded five, was beaten in straight sets by Gulliaume Raoux, 6-3, 6-4, The Russian Marat Safin, the No 8 seed, was eliminated by Julien Bourter, 6-4, 7-6, while the No 7 seed Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic was easily beaten by another Frenchman Fab-rice Santoro, 6-2, 6-3.

A Cherkasov (Rust 4-6 6-4 7-6; J Boutter (Fr) bt J Bakeds (Fr) 6-3 4-6 6-4; F Jonsson (Swe) bt O Stanoytchev (Bulg) 6-3 6-2; C Souther (Fr) bt J Van Merck (Bel) 7-6 3-6 6-3. Flust rounds A Clement; Fro) bt F Vocente (Sp) 6-36-1. K Carlsen (Den) bt O Princosi (Ger) 7-6 4-6 6-3; J Boutter (Fr) bt M Sahn (Rus) 6-4 7-6. N Escude (Fr) bt M Sahn (Nor) 6-1 6-7 7-6; O Hrbaty (Slowsk) bt J A Marin (CR) 6-2 6-1: A Medicedev (Ukr) bt F Jonsson (Swe) 7-6 7-6; A Pavel (Rom) bt G Blanco (Sp) 6-4 7-5; G Racotx (Fr) bt M Gustonfsson (Swe) 6-3 6-4; F Santoro (Fr) bt O Vacek (Cz Rep) 6-2 6-3.

PAN PACIFIC WIGNERY'S OPEN (Roleyo)
Singles, first round: A Coetzer (SA) b:
M Serna (Sp) 6-2 6-1. L Raymond (US)
to 5 Pilschke (Aut) 6-1 6-2: E Callens (Bet)
bt K Po (US) 6-3 6-1: A Suglyama (Japan)
bt Wang Shi-ting (Talw) 6-2 6-3: A
Koumkova (Role) bt A Hilber (Ger) 7-6 6-0. Roumikova (Rus) bit A Huber (Ger) 7-6 6-0.

ATP RANKINGS: 1 P Sampras (US)
3,744pts: 2 A Corretp a 15p1 3,530. 3 Y
Kafelnikov (Rus1 3,419: 4 P Ratter (Aus)
3,264: 5 C Mova (5p) 3,78: 6 M Ros
(Chile) 2,969: 7 A Agasse (US; 2,945: 9
T Herman (G8) 2,608: 9 R Krajnock (Nech)
2,575: 10 G Rusedski (GB) 2,568: 11 T
Enqvist (Swe) 2,362: 12 K Kucery (So-vak) 2,261: 18 T Martin (US) 2,152: 14
G Ivanisevic (Croa) 2,082: 15 M Philippoussis (Aus) 1,898: 16 A Costa (5p)
1,817: 17 T Johansson (Swel 1,761: 18
C Pioline (Fr) 1,678: 19 F Mantilla (5p)
1,650; 20 J Siemennik (Neth) 1,619.

WITA TOUR RANKINGS: 1 L, Caverport
(US) 5,935pts: 2 M Hingis (Swit) 5,547:
3 Norodna (Cz Rep) 3,623: 4 M Seles

WTIA TOUR REMNANCS: 1, Davemport (US 5, 5935ps): 2 M Hingis (Swit) 5, 547; 8 J Norotna (Cz Rep) 3,823; 4 M Seles (US 3,656; 5 A Sanchez Vicario (Spl 3,067; 6 V Millams (US) 3,014; 7 S Graf (Ger) 2,651; 8 M Pierce (Fr) 2,582; 8 P Schnyder (Swit) 2,310; 10 N Tauziat (Fr) 2,259; 11 O Van Roest (Bet) 2,196; 12 A Kournikova (Rus) 1,995; 13 I Spirlea (Rom) 1,926; 145 Festud (Fr) 1,835; 15 A Coetze (SA) 1,778; 16 C Martinez (Sp) 1,749; 17 A Mauresmo (Fr) 1,625; 18 N Zwereva (Bela) 1,625; 19 S Schett (Aut) 1,454; 20 J Halard-Deouges (Fr) 1,333; 21 S Farina (ID) 1,352; 22 M Seria (Sp) 1,222; 23 E Likhoviseva (Rus) 1,141; 24 S Wittlams (US) 1,085; 25. A Suglyama (Japan) 1,044; 26 I Majoki (Croa) 1,042; 27 L Raymond (US) 1,002; 28 A Huber (Ger) 987; 29 C Rubin (US) 989, 5: 30 H Nagyora (Stovak) 874. Selected GB: 62 S Smith 441.

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A. A. P. STANZT T. S. P. C.

A COMPANY AND ASSESSMENT

'Hoddle will not be out of work for long. His self-belief and inner strength will soon bring him back to the fore'

# A sad and unnecessary departure

GLENN HODDLE, Terry Venables, Graham Taylor and Bobby Robson have all experienced the impossi-bility of managing England.

Robson went grey resisting im-precations to Allah for him to go. Tayfor woke up wringing in sweat from the tension of the job. Venables walked when some of his employers went "wobbly" on him at the thought of his impending court appearances. Now Hoddle has got the bullet in the wake of the controversy generated by his musing over karma. Even Tony Blair joined the chorus - and Tony Banks maintained the pressure

It is not a healthy state of affairs when Prime Ministers comment on football coaches, no matter what the subject matter. It tells us more left with no option to resign after Engabout the current Government than land's failure to qualify for USA 94, the high-profile nature of our na-



Graham Kelly, the former chief executive of the Football Association, says that the deposed national manager has been treated unfairly

goose was well and truly cooked by this new and unwelcomed trend. Traditionally the Football Associ-

ation does not sack its international itual reflections complet managers. Sir Alf Ramsey was the public relations fiascos. only previous incumbent to receive his P45, though Graham Taylor was and the insecure Don Revie felt be tional game. Certainly Hoddle's pre-empted dismissal by decamping porters who contended he was guilty

to the desert in 1977. But times are changing, Lancaster Gate is very sen-sitive. Hoddle's easily prompted spir-

itual reflections completed a trio of

First, he upset Lancaster Gate with his employment of the faith healer, Eileen Drewery. Then he published his World Cup diary, to the consternation of the football re-

was sufficient to cost him his position. But the latest episode made his departure inevitable. Results were only average and he had "previous". The Football Association found it impossible to maintain its hitherto

lukewarm support.

I do not believe he should have gone yesterday. In reality, his book revealed very little. Mrs Drewery did no harm, although Hoddle should have realised how insular football can be. And, as for the hereafter, surely we live in an age and a country of free expression, no matter how unorthodox?

After all, why did he call the Times reporter, Matt Dickinson, last week? It was his natural inclination, rather than part of the FA's express policy of making Hoddle shed his image of alcomess and arrogance, encouraged by con-ducting individual interviews with the main reporters. And inadvertently - just as I did - he gave his enemies a stick to beat him with

Anyone who takes the England job becomes a major celebrity overnight. He is never just the coach responsible for winning matches for the country. He is expected to fulfill a wider PR role for the game. He promotes the FA's policies on social issues such as anti-racism. Thus it is wholly unrealistic to restrict his utterances to the sweeper system.

Moreover, the new open-door policy was always doomed to failure. Once the pack has scented blood, it will not be distracted until the ultimate vengeance has been extract-

Whatever your opinion, that is a more media friendly. He was to fact of media life as we approach the new millennium. Bobby Rohson was

Hoddle has his grammar ridiculed unfairly.

It is alleged that Glenn has lost credibility with the players. Yet, if the FA really sounded out senior members of the England squad, I find that almost as disturbing as the political interventions we have seen this week. Will future England coaches have their position so undermined?

As ever, continuity is paramount. Howard Wilkinson needed little encouragement to take over. He has sought to expand his influence for some time now. The FA's technical director, the only Englishmen to win the Premiership, has always be-lieved the Under-21s should come under his anthority: Hoddle has hung on to them because he wanted the last link before promotion to the full squad.

A few incautious words have

resulted in the departure of a decear shrewick hormer player to manage England

It is all very sad and unnechange.

Howard Wikinson has proved him. self adroit at negotiating a path through the labyrinthine corridors of power at Lancaster Gate. A number of observers criticised his door. ness before he became technical director so he will have much to prove but little to lose.

ove but little to lose. Wilkinson's short period in charge of the development of our thise young players won immense goodwill from his former colleagues in management. That will now stand him in good stead as he faces the ultimate challenge.

Hoddle will not be out of work for long, though. His self-belief and much-criticised inner strength will soon bring him back to the fore.

Acceptab

Secretary Charles

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# 'Horrible job' may prove hard to fill

THE SUCCESSION

Some leading contenders have already pleaded not to be considered for the England vacancy. **Phil Shaw** assesses the names left in the hat

VISITORS TO the Football Association headquarters are struck by the number of trophies on display for a nation whose only serious silverware remains the World Cup in 1966. One of the exhibits is presumably the poisoned chalice of the England managership - but, after the sour taste left by Glenn Hoddle's reign, who will drink from it now?

Howard Wilkinson will take temporary control against FA sticks to its practice of ap- Passions? France next week, but Bryan Robson ruled himself out vesterday, while Manchester Unitagainst any move for Alex Ferguson.

Assuming that remains the situation, the FA could be left to choose between the old guard, Bobby Robson or Terry Venables; a relatively unproven generation led by Peter Reid and John Gregory, and two coaches with little or no top-level playing experience, Wilkinson and Roy Hodgson.

When the post became available after Graham Taylor's demise five years ago, Hoddle was among those who reflected on the pressures. "Managing England should be the best job in the world, but it has become a horrible job," he said. "Perhaps we should be looking for a divorcee with no

Wilkinson commented simultaneously that he valued his family too much to leave Leeds for England, warning that anyone who took the job had to "fight the system and the press from day one".

clared his readiness to return, while Venables is still rated highly by those players who remain from his Euro 96 semi-finalists. But at almost 66 and 56 respectively, it is hard to see either in any other than an interim role, perhaps grooming his eventual replacement.

Therein lies a problem if the pointing Englishmen only -12 of the 20 Premiership managers could be instantly disgarded as too old (and, anyway, Big Ron reckons he would only consider it on a player-manager basis), Dave Jones and Danny Wilson as too young. Harry Redknapp has not achieved enough and Bryan Robson feels he is not ready, which leaves just Brian Kidd and Gregory.

As one who has just begun his career as a No 1 at Blackburn, Kidd is a non-starter, while the impressive Gregory is surely one for further down the line: this time last year he had not even left Wycombe for Aston Villa. Though some armtwisting may yet be done on Bryan Robson, it is questionable whether his record at Middlesbrough (two promotions and one relegation on a hig transfer budget) merits

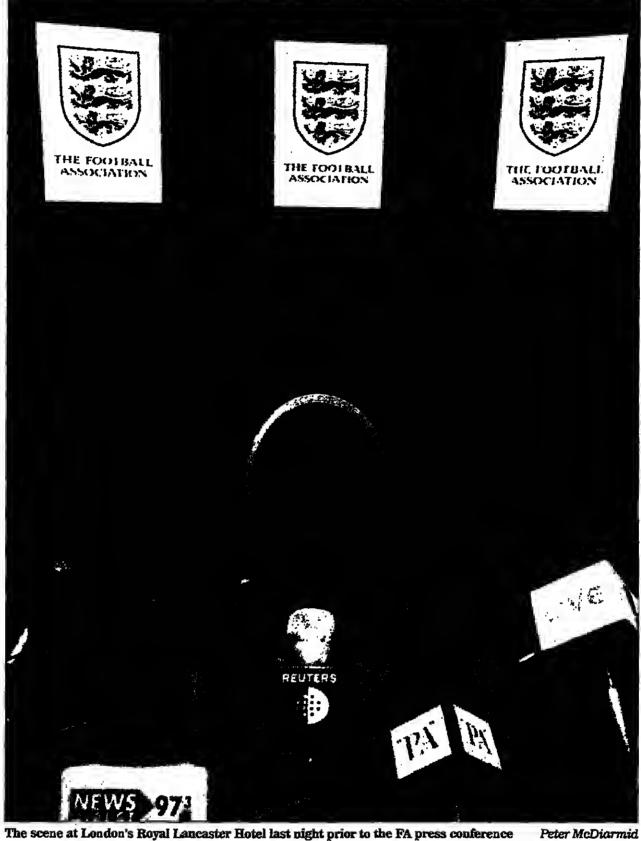
Reid, of First Division leaders Sunderland, has the requisite playing background, having been the ball-winning A skin as thick as a rhino's foil to Hoddle in the 1986 World

to the qualifications needed by fifth in the Premiership, no Hoddle's long-term successor mean feat given what has Bobby Robson has already desince befallen Manchester City. And he is also a straighttaiking Scouser, more of a "calm down" man than a karma man, if possibly too proletarian for some FA tastes. Non-football opinion put the skids under Hoddle; how would it react to clips of Reid in expletive overdrive from the TV documentary Premier

Kevin Keegan, chief operating officer at Fulham, might be the people's choice, as ed made a pre-emptive strike counted. Jim Smith and Ron Brian Clough was in the 1970s. Atkinson would probably be re- But the evidence of Newcastle was that Keegan does not possess Clough's tactical understanding, even if he has belatedly acknowledged the need for better defensive organisation. Moreover, the image of his emotional outburst against Ferguson during the title run-in of '96 bodes ill for the pressure cooker atmosphere surrounding the

England job. As for Wilkinson, he took Leeds from promotion to the championship in three sea-sons, but is also remembered for selling Eric Cantona cheaply and buying Tomas Brolin and Lee Sharpe expensively. As the FA's director of coaching, Wilkinson also has the advantage of being in situ.

With the Under-18s he has worked with Michael Owen. among others who will be part of the future England set-up. Against that, his tendency to ramble and philosophise in press conferences would risk antagonising the media as Tay-Cup. He has managed a club to lor and Hoddle did.



quainted with the rigours of the international game, having led Switzerland to USA 94, and did reasonably well at Internazi-

onale. He is also available. Again, though, the FA must Blackburn, who sacked him before Christmas, some players

Hodgson can boast an even Remembering the communimore apposite CV. He is ac- cation chasm between the hit-list. Apart from his tro-England players and Taylor, a former lower-division full-back, the fact that Hodgson never played League football would count against him

Were the search to be balance pluses and minuses. At broadened to include non-English candidates, and the FA set its sights as high as posthought Hodgson too cerebral. sible. Ferguson and Arsene years. Yet the "part-time" is exclusively in club football.

Wenger would be high on the nature of the England job phy-laden tenure at Old Trafford, Ferguson gained experience at international level when be took Scotland to the '86 World Cup after Jock

Stein's death. manager has intimated a de- the obvious foreign candidate, sire to retire in the next few

might appeal to him as a final challenge. His hard-nosed handling of the media would also preclude the kind of crises into which Hoddle and Taylor stumbled.

Meanwhile, Wenger's Dou-The 57-year-old United hie with Arsenal makes him albeit one whose background

### **Overseas** manager would be a first

THE FOREIGN CONNECTION

BY CLIVE WHITE

GIVEN THE glaring absence of any obvious successor to Glenn Hoddle from among the ranks of English managers, attention will, inevitably, turn abroad. The success of Arsène Wenger at Arsenal and Gianluca Vialli at Chelsea has taught the English to be much less sceptical of foreign coaches, but appointing one as national coach would set a precedent not only for England but for any major footballing power around the world.

None of the game's leading countries has ever put a foreigner in charge of its national . team. While Italy, Germany. Spain and the Netherlands and have all had foreigners in charge at their clubs and quite often their leading clubs, the national federations of those countries have never been able to bring themselves to appoint an outsider. For a country as proudly nationalistic as England to do so would be unthinkable. It would also be an indictment of coaching in this country.

Bobby Robson, the former England manager, for one does not think it will nor should happen. "I just don't think you would get the same commitment from a stranger, from a Chilean or someone, coming into England as manager as opposed to a bone fide Englishman who's served his country at various levels of the game." said Robson. "I don't think you'd get the same attachment, the same love and devotion and passion and diehard spirit that you've got for your own country. You're going to war, aren't you? You fight for your country, you fight to the end. I can't quite see a foreigner quite doing that.

"I definitely think we've got men to do the job, the question is whether you can persuade them. I'm not saying Glenn got the job because other people turned it down, but there were other people in the frame when Glenn finally took the job who didn't fancy it because, well, they didn't need a hole in their head."

The appointment of foreign national team coaches has hitherto been exclusively the preserve of emerging nations, who lack sufficient expertise in their own country, and as such their success has only been relative. It was significant that at Euro 96 only one of the 16 finalists - Switzerland with the Portuguese Artur Jorge - was

coached by a foreigner Ironically, two of the most successful "foreigners" have been Englishmen - Jack Charl. ton with the Republic of Ireland and Roy Hodgson with Switzerland - but no major championship has been won by a country coached by a foreigner

Wales (Mike Smith and Bobby Gould) and Northern Ireland (Lawrie McMenemy) have gone down the same route but have yet to venture beyond the British Isles for a coach.

If the Football Association were to look "abroad" they would almost certainly look fur ther afield. There is a small precedent in as much as it was the FA's intention to appoint the Frenchman Gérard Houllier as technical director, the post now held by Howard Wilkinson, but the now Liverpool manager was unable to free himself before France 98,

# Reid is choice of City headhunters

PETER REID, the manager of First Division Sunderland, should be at the top of the Football Association's list of candidates to replace Glenn Hoddle as the England coach, according to a specialist with a City headhunting firm.

The FA's main priority, said Terry Rickaby, a manage consultant with Firth Ross Martin, should be to appoint a man who commands respect within the English game. "I'd forcefully advise the FA to go around English managers and canvass opinion," he said. "They're the people who know the game and you need to get the entire establishment behind the new management."

Rickaby added that the manager should, above all, be able to achieve results and maintain players' motivation and confidence. "This time they need to try to identify someone with a successful track record," Rickaby said. He added that Hoddle's problems with the media have not helped him, and said any successor must be able dency to overburden the pre- Wnek Gosper, said the FA [of candidates]."

THE PITCH

Sunderland manager has the necessary respect within game says specialist recruitment firm. By Nick Harris

to deal with similar pressures. Asked for candidates who might fit the bill, Rickaby sald he would advise the FA to look for a young, up and coming manager, not necessarily in the Premier League.

"I'd suggest Peter Reid. He has the respect, he played for has the respect, he played for his country and is he proud to "Must be prepared to work amidst the inevitable discuption have worn his country's shirt." Of non-English managers. Rickaby added, Alex Ferguson was the most obvious candidate. "He has a great case and has been a great servant to the

might whet his appetite." Advertising agencies approached by The Independent came up with a variety of ways of attracting candidates for the job. J Walter Thompson's advert be able to work Sundays." said: "Applicants with a ten-

match period with talk of the other side need not apply." The recruitment pitch added: "You will also be required to forge a strong working relationship with the big man upstairs, whoever he may be. (Since Mr Kelly stood down).

caused by the dismantling of Wembley's pearly gates.
"The new coach should also

desist in the practice of informing players they are required for squad training by opening phone calls with the words Please join the congregation at Bisham Abbey."

The advert finishes with the

warnings "Do not regard this as a joh for (this) life" and "Must Mark Wnek, of Euro RSCG want to scour the English field

should look for someone with a balanced personality. "It's Hoddle's unceasing search for a personality that's been getting him into trouble," he said.

Saatchi and Saatchi, who produced the advert on the right, played on the subject reincarnation - that landed Heddle in his most serious trouhle to date. Donald MacLeod of Korn

Ferry, another City headhunting firm, said: "Clearly the biggest pitfall [for an England manager] is that that person is always in the public eye." Whether an overseas manager would be appropriate for the job - even in the current global climate of the game—would be entirely for the FA to decide, MacLeod said, but he added. "I think I would first

Whoever ends up as the next coach should be less naive in dealing with the media and avoid talking about non-football sub-jects, Max Clifford, the PR ex-pert, said yesterday. Had Hoddle been a client of his, Clifford said, he would have been told never to talk to journalists about subjects such as reincarnation. "If only Hoddle was as skilful at explaining himself as be was with his feet, be wouldn't have had these problems," he said. He added that Hoddle had not only made the mistake of airing his opinions, but his follow-up damage limitation exercise had been poorly executed. "He didn't limit the damage," Clifford said. "If anything he made it worse."

The next England coach, it seems, needs to have a first-class pedigree in management, be popular with the public, be able to lead the team to major triumphs, have a good rapport with the media and be relaxed (but work well under pressure). The new man's nationality is less important. As long as he's Eng-

IF YOU'VE BEEN REINCARNATED, **PLEASE** CONTACT THE F.A. IMMEDIATELY. England Manager required. Please write stating previous experience and previous lives. Salary £350,000 p.a. plus company karma.

BILL SHANKLY.

How Saatchi & Saatchi would seek a new England coach

THE HODDLE SACKING

THE INDEPENDENT &

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misinterpreted". Later in the afternoon th Football Association spokesman, Steve Double, describes Hoddle as "an excellent

The Football Supporters' Association are not convinced by Hoddle's statements and accuse him of placing a slur on the disabled. At 3pm Hoddle takes his seat for the Coventry v Liverpool game at Highfield. He pledges it is business as

The FA issue a further statement in support of the embattled coach. The public are told that Hoddle's next media en-

friendly against France at Wembley. It is confirmed that

ence to name a team for the

with Drewery. Stung by public reaction, FA force with the press strongly cuss Hoddle's position A

### THE FALL

acting chief executive, David Davies, appears on Radio Five Live's Sports Week programme saying FA chairman, Geoff Thompson, will be summoning the England coach to a meeting to explain his remarks. At lunchtime The Times issues a strong statement of defence for its story and says that jourprovided an accurate representation of the Hoddle inter-

Monday, February 1 - The start to the day for Hoddle. storm seems to he gathering ures will meet "urgently" to dis-

in 36 hours. At hunchtime a Teletext poll reveals 82 per cent against Hoddle. Pressure believe Hoddle should go.

mounts for Hoddle to go. The

ensive is in full swing. His agent, Dennis Roach, states that his client intends to sue

statement will be issued with- The Times. They fight back way out if he cuts off his links with the editor Peter Stothard, with Eileen Drewery and claiming Hoddle's defence of his position has been "inco-

> Senior FA officials hold talks. story and Nationwide, sponsors of the England team, are also involved in discussions. Hoddle is interviewed by Trevor McDonald on News at

Ten but no new light is shed on the situation. Tuesday, February 2 -Media reaction to Hoddle's interviews is cool with most pa-

makes a further apology, but there are few crumbs of comfort. Nationwide marketing manager, Mike Lazenby, ex-Hoddle gives his side of the presses disquiet about Hoddle's actions, saying he was "remorseful, not necessarily

David Davies announces a decision on Hoddle's future has been put back to tea-time today At 6.54pm, Davies issues a short statement at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, which begins: "With regret the FA and Glenn Hoddle have today Doily Telegraph and The Miragreed to terminate Glenn's ror suggest there could be a contract".

# A long, winding road to nowhere

THE MAN

The path to salvation proved too rocky for a man who stumbled over the many pitfalls. By Kieran Daley

FOR A man in search of spiri- in the process of separating tual fulfilment, Glenn Hoddle demonstrated in recent months an unfortunate propensity for taking the wrong turning. At a few minutes before 7pm last night - when a formal FA announcement confirmed his departure - it became apparent that Hoddle's latest amble in the wrong direction had led to his dismissal as the England

Even before the weekend furore over his claim that disabled people are paying for the sins they committed in a previous life. Hoddle appeared to be meandering off the straight and narrow in both his personal and professional lives.

Before the World Cup, his marriage to childhood sweetbeart and mother of his three children Anne was effectively ended – on the grounds of his Lultery – at a brief courtroom hearing under the "quickie" divorce procedure.

District Judge Moorhouse, sitting at the Principal Registry of the Family Division in London, took just a few seconds to grant a decree nisi. In what looks an increasingly pungent irony, given this weekend's events, the decree was granted on the ground that the marriage had irretrievably broken down as a result of Hoddle's adultery.

in whiten documents. Hoddle the petitioner, asked to with the national squad. briefly state her reasons for sayrespondent admitted it in his acknowledgement of service and had previously admitted it to me." In a document filed with the court, Hoddle himself. asked if he admitted the alleged adultery, answered: "Yes".

To the outside world the Jouple's 18-year partnership had looked rock solid, so much so that the Hoddles were picked to star in a happy family' television advertisement for Shredded Wheat.

But in October 1997 the happy image was shown to be a distortion when it emerged that the couple were separating. Hoddle left the £350,000 family home at Ascot, Berkshire. moving into a spare room of old

friend and faith healer Eileen misconduct. Drewery, who was later to have a controversial role helping the England squad. Ironically, news of the break-up came just days after what was arguably the highlight of Hoddle's managerial career, when his England team achieved a goalless draw with Italy in Rome, in a match which secured their

one cation for last year's rid Cup finals in France. Amouncing the separation t the time, the Football Association said that it was unconnected with Hoddle's England

responsibilities, and that nobody else was involved. During the course of the year, however, press reports

other party in the Hoddles' court documents, however. If 1999 did not start happily for Hoddle, that was little more

ery, his World Cup diary, in which he disclosed Paul Gascoigne's "raging" reaction to being left out of the squad for the games in France, and his contract renegotiations after England's elimination from the

Critics suggested that practising penalty kicks - England were eliminated in a shoot-out against Argentina - might have been more useful,

But only last September, sport Drewery's involvement

During the World Cup, Hoding that her husband had com- dle was strongly criticised for mitted adultery, said: "The explaining publicly the reasons why the Manchester United midfielder David Beckham was initially left out of the England starting line-up. Critics accused him of undermining Beckham's

The England coach subsequently made more than \$200,000 from his World Cup diary, in which he disclosed dressing-room secrets. The affair-sparked reports that players felt let down hy his betrayal of confidence.

That faith - fuelled by Drewery, advanced by Cliff Richard linked Hoddle with former air and the organisation Chris-

from her husband. Nobody was named as the

than a continuation of the problems which had troubled him throughout 1998. Headlines last year were dominated by his links to Drew-

World Cup. To the bemusement of the

sports media, Hoddle introduced Drewery to the England team in a bid to improve their performance. After the World Cup, Hoddle said he believed Drewery would have made the 20 per cent difference between success and failure if she had accompanied the England team to France.

Hoddle declared he would not tolerate any attempt by the Football Association to cut

When the England captain, Paul Ince, was sent off during his side's 2-1 defeat by Sweden last September, Hoddle insisted the player's apparent V sign to the crown as he departed was "not an issue". The FA disagreed, and charged Ince with

There were numerous reports of dissent among players growing restless at Hoddle's management style when the England team underperformed in a game against Luxembourg later in the year.

Despite all the criticism, Hoddle managed to hold on to his job, his position buttressed with the football-following public by their fond memories of the peerless flair which characterised his own playing career with Tottenham, Monaco and England, and in private by his personal

tians in Sport - clearly runs







End of a reign (clockwise from top): Glenn Hoddle holds the national flag aloft outside the twin towers of Wembley after being appointed as the England coach in 1996; the face of happier times with his enigmatic midfielder Paul Gascoigne; fêted at Downing Street as a guest of the Prime Minister, Tony Blair; Hoddle demonstrates his skills during his playing days at Tottenham Hotspur

deep, apparently crystalised by a trip to Bethlehem with 1958 Born 27 October, Hayes,

England I could have walked out of that cave, like the rest of the England lads and thought that it was a fantastic experience," Hoddle recalled after his visit to the site. "But there was something more, there was a

very strong spiritual feeling." But with his interest in faithhealing and reincarnation, it is a faith which defies conven-

tional classification. Now that fascination with reincarnation, and his bizarre suggestion that sinners may have to pay a penalty in the form of physical disability in their next life, has brought about the most bizarre fall from grace suffered by any England

1974 Signed as apprentice by Tottenham after playing for Harlow and Essex Schools sides 1975 Turns professional, makes

debut at 18 as substitute against Norwich 1976 Scored on full debut against Stoke 1979 Scored on England senior

debut against Bulgaria in European Champlonship qualifying match at Wembley, the first of his eight England goals 1981 Won FA Cup with Spurs,

1982 Collected League Cup runners-up medal after defeat by Liverpool. Scored in FA Cup final and replay against QPR to collect his second winner's medal. 1987 Played in FA Cup final defeat £750,000 move to Monaco.

Playing alongside Mark Hate-ley, Inspires Monaco to French league title within 12 1988 Won last of 53 England caps in 3-7 defeat by the USSR – Bobby Robson's third-successive humiliation of the

European Championship finals in Germany 1990 Retired through Injury 1991 Made comeback at Chelsea reserves followed by appointment as Swindon

player-manager in April, replacing former Spurs team-mate Ossie Ardiles 1993 Scored first goal in 4-3 play-off final win against Leicester

which took the Wiltshire club into the Premiership. One month later quit Swindon to take over at Cheisea

1994 Took Cheisea to FA Cup final

THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF GLENN HODDLE'S CAREER 1995 Made final appearance in 2-1 home win over Arsenal. Signed Ruud Gullit from

modoria 1996 Led Chelsea to FA Cup semi-finals in which they lose 2-1 to Manchester United. Appointed England manager after Terry Venables stepped down following Euro 98
Steered England to victory in
Tournol de France with 1997

victories over Italy and France. England top their group and qualify for World Cup finals in France after 0-0 draw in final match in Rome Hoddle claims his reported comments about Michael Owen not being the finished article were misinterpreted

April Hoddle threatens the psychic Uri Geller with legal action after he claims

him before he was appointed England coach and makes allegations about what happened at the meeting
happen

in the second round, losing a little luck, England could have won the tournament. Hoddle's World Cup diary causes a storm. Revelations including Gascoigne's reaction to learning he would miss the World Cup and his attack on Chris Sutton after he refused to play for England B. are criticised by leading figures in the game such as Alex

calls for his resignation over

Ferguson, Bryan Robson and the PFA 1 Feb insists he will not quit despite people

2 Feb Sacked by FA in the wake of his comments about disabled people that were printed in The Times HONOURS

comments about disables

BRO

Player Career: Tottenham 1975-87 Played 494, Goals 110. Monaco 1987-90. Swindon 1991-93 P75 G3. Chelsea 1993-95 P48 G1.

Honours: FA Cup winner 1981, 1982: Runner-up 1987. League Cup runner-up 1982. Uefa Cup winner 1984. French League winner 1988. Division One promotion 1993. England: 53 senior caps, 8 goals, Un-der-21: 12 caps, B level: 2 caps,

Manager Career: Swindon 1991-93. Chelsea 1993-96. England 1996-1999. Honours: First Division promotion play-off winner with Swindon in

# 'Misconstrued, misunderstood, misinterpreted'

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 - First strued, misunderstood and editions of Saturday's Times reveal the controversial Hoddle interview. Hoddle issues a statement before the night is o. I He calls the interpretation of his views on the disabled "scandalous" and says "The motive behind it I can only

Saturday, January 30 - Reaction is swift on Saturday morning with Disabled Supporters Association chairperson Freda Murray calling Hoddle's comments "disgusting". Hoddle is interviewed on Saturday hinchtime's Football Focus programme. He says his views have been "misconsupporter of the disabled".

gagement is the press confer-

Hoddle has held talks with the FA's International Committee chairman, Noel White. Controversial faith healer Eileen Drewery is quoted in the Sunday Telegraph as giving her support for Hoddle. The Chelsea chairman, Ken Bates, a forthright FA Council member and Hoddle's ex-boss, attacks the England coach He nalist Matt Dickinson has suggests that Hoddle has blundered because of his dealings

Sunday, January 31 - A bad

Prime Minister, speaking on ITV's This Morning programme says Hoddle's remarks, if true, are "very wrong". The Sports Minister, Tony Banks, and Football Task Force chairman, David Mellor, take up strong, anti-Hoddle po-

David Davies announces he has been in constant touch with disabled fans and players' groups. He says senior FA fig-

William Hill say they have herent". closed the book on bets as to

whether Hoddle will leave his post. In the afternoon Hoddle announces he will not stand down. He gives a lengthy interview to Sky Sports in which he expresses sorrow for the reaction to the story but continues to state that the article has east him unfairly as the vil-

By 6pm Hoddle's counter-off-

pers calling for him to go. The

repentant".



# SP()RT



TRIBUTE TO MARK TAYLOR P23 . RUGBY MASTER MCLAREN P22

FA dismisses manager whose position had become untenable and turns to technical director Wilkinson

# Hoddle pays for eccentricity

AFTER A day of meetings, missed deadlines and chilly vigils Glenn Hoddle last night became the first England manager to be sacked since Sir Alf Ramsey was fired in April 1974.

The axe finally fell at 7pm last night when David Davies, the Football Association's acting chief executive, read a and Glenn Hoddle have today agreed to terminate Glenn's contract," Davies said.

"After more than 24 hours of meetings and discussions it became apparent to all those concerned that this was the right decision for English football. The position had become increasingly untenable for both the FA and for Glenn. He accepts he has made a serious error of judgement and of course has apologised.

"The past few days have been painful for everyone involved, but that is as nothing compared to any offence that may have been caused to disabled people in our community and in our country. We accept this wasn't Glenn's intention.

### INSIDE

A sad and unnecessary departure - Graham Kelly Hoddle's long march to nowhere

The job no one wants Page 26-27

"It's unquestionable though that the controversy over whatever was or wasn't said had damaged both Glenn and his employers. The FA has rightly considered all the options over recent hours. Glenn has served the England team with dedieventually all parties agreed that in the circumstances this was the correct way forward.

asked to take charge of the England team for the game with France on 10 February."

Wilkinson would be joined at the helm by David Platt, the former successful manager, has the England midfielder who resigned as Sampdoria's team supervisor yesterday after a brief, unhappy spell back in Italy's

The key players in the FA -Geoff Thompson, the acting chairman; Davies; Noel White, a Liverpool director and the chairman of the FA's international committee; David Richards, the chairman of England then lost at home to

By GLENN MOORE

Dein, the vice-chairman of Arsenal; and David Sheepshanks, the chairman of Ipswich -either convened at the Park Court Hotel, a few hundred yards from the FA's Lancaster Gate offices. or were on the end of a telephone line, from early morning. statement. "With regret the FA Already television crews were parked outside, photographers and journalists gathered on the pavement.

The lunchtime deadline passed. Then the mid-afternoon one. A tea-time deadline came and went. Rumours circulated, most of them about Hoddle's whereabouts.

The FA had by now moved on from their morning meeting of movers and shakers to a wider one involving the full 14-man international committee. The talking continued, and the delay prompted a belief that lawyers had become involved. Speculation followed. Was Hoddle threatening to take the FA to court with a charge of unfair dismissal if he was sacked? That would worry the FA who were desperately keen to settle the matter as soon as possible and would abhor a messy court case. Hoddle would feel he had a good case, too, if he was sacked on the word of a journalist. However, should the FA back down for this reason, it would presumably only forestall his exit until the first defeat, when he could be fired on results.

As darkness fell, word went round that Hoddle would at last be coming to meet his employers face-to-face.

Wilkinson will take over while

the FA search for a long-term replacement and will tomorrow name a squad for France game. cation and with loyalty. But Jim Smith, the manager of derby and a long-standing friend of Wilkinson, said: "I personally think Howard he could do the "Howard Wilkinson is being job for a long time. He will be going in as a stop-gap but I think he has everything that is needed in the modern game to be Rumours were rife that Englandmanager Howardhas won the championship, been a coaching pedigree and the respect of everyone in football."

Hoddle took charge after Terry Venables had led England to the semi-finals of Euro 96. He was initially successful with World Cup qualifying victories in Moklova and Georgia and at home to Poland. David Beckham was blooded and Alan Shearer made an impressive captain. Sheffield Wednesday, David Italy with Hoddle's strange in-



Before the storm: Howard Wilkinson (left), the FA's technical director, who has taken over as England manager from Glenn Hoddle

clusion of Matt Le Tissier backfiring. The Southampton player was soon dropped but the team recovered, doing well in Le Tournol in the summer of 1997 then qualifying for the World Cup finals with a bold draw in Italy.

That was the apogee of Hoddle's reign. England played patchily in the build-up to the World Cup losing at home to Chile and being held by Saudi Arabia. On the plus side, Hoddle introduced Michael Owen, Paul Scholes and Rio Ferdinand but he also became embroiled in controversy regarding the

role of Eileen Drewery, his faith-healing friend, the exclusion of Chris Sutton and over

less bravely, omitted Owen and Beckham from England's openon their recall against Colombia and Hoddle claimed he had planned it that way. But the damage had been done with the defeat by Romania, and England, having failed to practise penalties, went out to Argentina in left Hoddle with a record of 17 spot-kicks on the second round. wins and six defeats in 28 games.

Hoddle's World Cup diary, Italy in a friendly, in five matchwhich provoked a furore, Tony comments made about Owen.
He then dropped Paul Gascuigne from the World Cup but,

Adams' autobiography, which balling power, although England criticised Hoddle, and the decigne from the World Cup but, with Bulgaria, and scrappy win over Luxembourg, left Enginggames. They responded well land struggling to qualify for next year's European Championships, while Andy Cole be-

> "coward" for not picking him. The encouraging November victory over the Czech Republic

came branded Hoddle a

Then came the publication of There was only one win, over es against a traditional footpions. He had hoped to wipe away the memories of a disappointing 1998 with another victory over France next week. Instead he might find himself

working there, with Monaco. The only other England manager to be sacked, Ramsey, who was dismissed after England failed to qualify for the 1974 World Cup finals, While there

remains some criticism of his personality and methods, his success in leading England to victory in the 1966 World Cup still stands as the apex of national footballing achievement.

History is likely to judge Hoddle more harshly. He was regarded as a talented player who failed to reach his potential at international level. While he may yet achieve success at club management as an international coach be may come to be seen as a crank whose early promise was dissipated by his confused ideology and inflexibility.

December 1997: Status that Michael Owen carrol be gustantevá a féste m 10.101 5305 There are certain thines be needs to stump out of his synthe and rom his off-theonce with an as well ite sins the inshed a tide that nervore drains he "He later letecold manager | Roy Econs to explain he has been misinterpreted." May 1998: Seddle narres his World Cup Sauta Li Manga Indone Secret Faul Cos cogne, who he claims is own. Amenghii He iki g) continued that places schedoly. napres, Gase 19000 having got drops. while patients a round of gott the DIEVICUS COV

June 1998: Columes David Beckham, saying the "was not focused, he was vague unidmaybe his club need to look ar ther He's got to understand

that football comes first." lugust 1998: Hoddle kiys his only mistake in the World Cuo was not taking laith-heale: Eleen Drew-Entraction was

have brought us that extra 20

January 1999: Heddle is quoted in The Times as saying that disabled people are suffering as a result of sins in a past life. Later he claims he has been nisquoted and threatens legal action.

man who loves football and

talks about it at any opportunity

with a broad knowledge and an

unaffected enthusiasm that

puts younger men to shame. Not just because his record as

that he has succeeded at the

highest level in four countries

(and his good reputation in

Holland would do no harm at all

were he to chaperone England

to the low countries for the Eu-

ropean finals). Not just be-

cause he made a decent fist of

guiding England through Italia

90, showing a willingness to re-

spond to the players when they

felt they had a point to make.

Not just because he must be

an English professional football manager is beyond compare, in

### THE WEDNESDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Current head's off for a
- American writer corre-sponding with English poet (10)
- 11 Easily best canine, showing admirable self-control? (10) 12 Old magistrate had im-

- age turned round (4)
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- information (4) Free fuel provided for heating (4,4)
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  - point (3-7) 26 Exercise vote following key summit (4)
    27 Lifted plant stem, we 28 Doctor is to join Euro-

pean paper (8)

- DOWN
- Priest's apt to be easily persuaded (7)
  Feeling uneasy having gone away (3,2,4)
  Not seriously concerned with sport? (2,3) Are not to use the Aus-

- - Very important con-tract? So what? (3,4) Knowing wife left out scrap (5) Bound to appear grate-
- Wind round another dogs unpleasant charac-ter? (1,3,3) Managed to back further loser (4-3)

ful (7)

Lady's bearing in con-temporary vessel (7) Dismay a chap expressed? (5) French river is about to receive small quantity of effluent (5)

# England cry out for experience

NOTHING SPEAKS more clearly of the failure of England's foothall administrators than the incoherence of the current debate over the identity of the next manager of the national team. The absence of a clear line of succession is the clearest possible condemnation of their priorities. The next manager, like too many of his predecessors, will in some senses have to start from scratch, because the nation that gave the game to the world no longer has a sense of living tradition, of historical continuity, on which he can rely.

And so, from the more freethinking elements, the cry goes up: "Let's appoint a foreigner." Their argument is that foreign players and coaches, attracted to England by money, have helped blow the cobwebs out of our game. Can't one of them do the same for the national team?

Only good, in social and sporting terms, has come from at Anfield and Highbury. Only good, in social and the arrival of large numbers of foreigners at League clubs. As such things. But I hope we Rund Guilit observed the other never find out the answer. day the world has changed, and part of that change involves no longer thinking of a centreforward from Paris or a central defender from Yaounde as a "foreigner". Learning to pronounce their names seems a small but worthwhile breach in traditional British insularity

Naturally, it would be interesting to see what Gérard Houllier or Arsène Wenger (or Franz Beckenbauer, come to that) might do with the England squad. Perhaps they would infuse the players with a fresher



### RICHARD WILLIAMS

collective spirit and tactical vision. Perhaps the fact that they would not share the squad's roison d'être might give them an objectivity denied to those who identify with a patriotic cause. The two French coaches have certainly been careful to retain many of those elements of foot-

Yes, it's fine to dream about Let's think for a moment

about the company we aspire to keep. Can we imagine the Brazilians, the Italians or the Germans reacting to such a situation by employing a foreign coach? All these countries are familiar with the presence of such men in their club football. All even Brazil and Germany, go through sticky patches. But pride alone - pride

in the honours they have won, a good example to the whole man who loves football and game - would surely dispel any notions of hiring an alien hand.

And do we want the England team to descend to the level of the emerging countries such as Saudi Arabia and Jamaica, who have looked abroad for experienced professional coaches to school their immature players? If so, the FA's International Committee should be compiling a shortlist including the names of Bora Milutinovic and Carlos Alberto Parreira, those muchtravelled mercenaries accustomed to accepting the challenge of ambitious but tech-

mically underdeveloped nations. No, we haven't fallen that far. But it is up to the Committee to act with the sort of care and wisdom with which they have not so far been associated. England's fate in the next two major tournaments will depend on their decision, along with the hopes of fans who see the domestic game enjoying unprecedented popularity, and expect, quite reasonably, to see

such good health reflected in the fortunes of the national team. Here's what the committee should do. They should begin by putting aside any idea of appointing a coach from among the younger club managers whose names are most frequently put forward. For a start, game if it showed its refusal to pluck a Keegan, a Gregory or a Bryan Robson in mid-season.

They should do the obvious by inviting Howard Wilkinson, their present technical director, to retain control after the France match until the end of the present domestic season. Wilkinson in turn should select Hoddle's typical squad en bloc, in order to retain continuity, at least until he has seen what be can do with them in the friendly match against France next week and the Euro 2000 qualifier against Peland next month. That ought not to present a problem, since the composition of Hoddle's squad was seldom contentious, and the players themselves de-

serve nothing less.

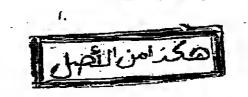
Meanwhile the FA should approach Bobby Robson. Once again they need not ask him to rupture his existing deal with PSV Eindhoven. They should ask him to take over from Wilkinson at the end of the Dutch season, when his contract expires, and to carry the squad through to the Euro 2000 finals, with a responsibility to groom his successor in time for the World Cup 2002 campaign and the promise of a permanent supervisory role at the end of it.

Why Bobby Robson, who is 62 years old and has already each of them already has a job had one crack at the job? Not

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psychologically secure enough to anoint his own successor without any danger of jealousy. All of those, of course, But one thing more. Something that, in the present context, is of vital importance. Robson has been through it all. He has been, in the immortal words of Ted Dexter, lampooned and harpooned. And if any man with the remotest claim to the job could be said to be no longer a target, it is him. I once knew a veteran racing

driver who put a aticker on the rear of his car, intending it to be read by those eating his smoke. "Age and experience," it said, will always beat youth and enthusiasm." How about age, experience and enthusiasm? For England, a sorry episode might have produced an interesting



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# **VEDNESDAY REVIEW**

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • **TELEVISION** 



MAGNE BEITANNIE FRAN CLE ET HIBERNIE REX



# Heads, you win

Charles and Oliver. Cavalier and Roundhead. Monarchist and Republican. The defining opposites of English constitutional history. So what were their spin doctors up to when they commissioned these engravings?

other hy means of execution: that Robespierre's dismissive judgement on the death of Charles I at the will of Cromwell. He refused to see any parallels with the impending execution of Louis XVI at the hands of the noble, democratic French Revolutionaries. Louis XVI himself, on the other hand, had always been presciently fascinated by the character of Charles I. As a small boy at Versailles he had recited a prepared speech to the historian David Hume; later, Hume's account of the unfortunate British monarch became one of his favourite studies and, in preparing himself to die in January 1793, he took as his model Charles I's conduct on the scaf-

ald nearly 150 years previously.

At the beginning of the 19th century, however, William Hazlitt reported a conversation among his friends in which all agreed that Oliver Cromwell "with his fine, frank, rough, pimply face, and wily policy" was the only statesman in history they would wish to have seen. Towards its end, Sir Richard Tangye, a rich industrialist, admired Cromwell so much on grounds of his religious principles and his integrity that he dedicated much of his wealth to forming a private Cromwell museum, packed with books, pictures and artefacts, at his estate in Cornwall.

All these attitudes indicate how far the reputations of both Charles I and Cromwell have always been adapted to suit the purposes of the time - or the individual. Long before there were spin doctors, there were propaganda warriors: reds (the royal colour), greens (the Leveller colour), and infinite shades in between, Now, by historical coincidence, the 350th anniversary of Charles I's execution (30 January) is found to occur within a few months of the 400th anniversary of Cromwell's birth (25 April). Two new pibitions, the Queen's Gallery with Charles I: ing and Martyr, and the Museum of London with Cromwell: Warts and All commemorate the respective events. And, in a sense, the propa-

ganda war is continued. The position of the Queen's Gallery is significant; it is tucked in beside Buckingham Palace

erely one tyrant and you reach it by what I always think of as a eliminating an- servants' entrance - although "subjects" may be a more appropriate word. The interior, however, houses a rich jewel of an exhibition which no one interested in the connection of art to polities should miss. It is also a fascinating exposition of the uses of propaganda. (You can't help noticing, in this connection, that the official copyright line on the excellent catalogue by Jane Roberts, Keeper of Prints and Drawings at Windsor, is "Royal Collection Enterprises Ltd".)

The position of the Cromwell exhibition at the Museum of London is also significant. London, as the visitor quickly learns at the entrance, was always heavily - and influentially - in favour of the parliamentary side in the Civil War. We are encouraged to think of Cromwell as London's local hero (no doubt planned events at Huntingdon, his birthplace, and Cambridge, which he represented as MP, will stress their own connections). This is an excellent, well-planned exhibition in which a great deal is interestingly displayed in a small space, having as its kernel

that his royal birth alone was sufficient for at least the first part of the exercise. The death of the gorgeous, brilliant Henry, Prince of Wales in 1612 left the 10-year-old Charles, Duke of York, very short for his age and a stammerer, as the heir. None of this deterred the image-makers: in many cases, engravings of the late Prince were simply made over to do for the next one, and the trappings of the title were left in, although there was four-year gap before Charles's creation as Prince of Wales, presumably for mourning's sake. Charles I's height could not even be guessed at from the pictures at the Queen's Gallery.

Charles's marriage to Henrietta Maria, Princess of France, shortly after his accession in 1825, involved new image-making. Henrietta Maria was tiny, very dark, with terrible teeth. In the royal pictures she emerges as exquisite, almost as lustrous as the great pearls round her neck and at her ears. She also provided, very quickly, children. Here, as in Hendrick Pot's charming study of Charles I, Henrietta Maria

### BY ANTONIA FRASER

that Cornish Tangye collection, handed over to the Museum of London in 1946. It does not have - how could it? - the sheer quality of the pictures and objects from the Royal Collection, such as Van Dyck's relatively small version of his equestrian portrait of Charles I, let alone the famous Van Dyck triple heads which alone make the Queen's Gallery worth a visit. Yet there are objects of great interest, such as the music manuscript of Cromwell's cousin Anne - music she played to him herself.

Cromwell: Warts and All does have its bull point, and this too is announced to the visitor. Cromwell has been more written about than any of our other rulers. We are at least half-way towards Sir Richard Tangye's conviction that "the nation" owed more to him than to any of its other leaders, even if the tactful subtitle "Warts and All" does presumably allude to two nations who may not feel the same way - Ireland and Scotland, against which he led military expeditions.

What the two exhibitions, taken together, reveal is the need that was felt, in the case of both men, to build them up and project a suitable image both royal and strong. In the case of

and Charles, Prince of Wales of 1632, we find the first pictures celebrating what George VI would call "the family firm". (The images of Henry VIII and his children, with the odd wife portrayed as a rather small figure, were always more about the King's potency, the survival quality of his dynasty, than about a family as such.)

The third stage in the development of Charles I's image was based on strength; as his political troubles developed and a military solution became increasingly likely, the mighty leader suc-ceeded the tender father. This, of course, was the first stage of Cromwell's image, since his power derived from his generalship in the Civil War. William Dobson's Charles I in armour, in the Queen's Gallery, was painted during the early Civil War period, while the first images of Cromwell show the "rough, pimply" soldier's face of Hazlitt's imagination. For a moment, then, it suits both royalists and parliamentarians to denote their leaders as military men.

But then Cromwell's crossover begins, Moving from General to Lord Protector in 1653, he proved no more capable than Charles I of providing that stable, parliament-based government

Charles I, hereditary King, it might be thought for which the war had presumably been fought. Increasingly, Cromwell's inclination moved towards the notion of restoring kingly government, on the grounds that the people knew their duty to the king and he knew his to them. In short, a protector had an unnatural base of power, and a king had a natural one. By 1657, eight years after the execution of Charles I, and the formal abolition of the monarchy, rumours that Cromwell would ascend the throne as Oliver I were rife, and the evidence is that he did seriously contemplate it, until some of his old friends from the Army persuaded him either that it was against the will of God, or that the Army would not wear it, or both. Eighteen months later Cromwell was dead, so we can never know

whether he would have changed his mind. Cromwell's royal transformation act, so surprising to those who think of him only as the Arch-Republican, is illustrated at both exhibitions. One engraving, by Peter Lombart, some-times known as The Headless Horseman (1655) owing to its Vicar of Bray-like changes of subject, shows Cromwell in regal pose on a kingly horse with sword, sash and attendant curly headed page or squire. The same pose - in fact the same engraving - was subsequently used to represent Charles I posthumously, and Charles II. Cardinal Mazarin and Louis XIV. In real life Cromwell made the protectoral style as close to the royal as he could - using many of the art trea-

sures of Charles I at Hampton Court. Ironically enough, in death it was Cromwell who was buried with all the pomp of a king, as pictures and a surviving hatchment show. The best that the supporters of Charles I could do. denied any kind of state funeral in 1649, was to turn him into a martyr who had died for the Anglican religion. An engraving by Wenceslaus Hollar shows Charles I with his own crown in

the dust and a heavenly crown approaching him. What is it about monarchy? After the Restoration, Cromwell's body was dug up, and ceremoniously executed in its turn. Although plenty of people in England today are descended from Cromwell, there are none who bear his name When the last descendant in the male line, one Olivaria Cromwell, applied to George III to preserve her name on marriage, the King was heard to mutter: "No, no more Cromwells." Royal Collection Enterprises Ltd. on the other hand, is symbolically flourishing.



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### Hoddle in the dock

Sir: The argument over Glenn Hoddle's comments has wideranging human rights implications. He has made a statement of his religious belief, and as a result may he sacked from

I suspect that this could not happen in the US, where freedom of religion and freedom of speech are enshrined in the constitution, and it would seem to be in defiance of the UN Declaration of Human Rights (Articles 18 and 19 on freedom of conscience and freedom of expression). CHRIS BROOKING

Sir: Glenn Hoddle, it is alleged, has said that disabled people must have sinned in a previous life. How do we know he is wrong?

Today many people believe that what they believe is true for them and that it is what they believe that matters. What is particularly alarming is that Mr Hoddle is condemned for believing something that is apparently unpalatable and unkind to others rather than for believing something that is not true. We apparently now live in a world in which truth is secondary to what is palatable.

As a Christian I believe that what Mr Hoddle has said is untrue. My belief in a truth that I believe has been revealed gives me a view of how the world works that makes me sure that what Mr Hoddle believes is wrong. This episode is simply the symptom of a society which appears to have little agreed value base and little concern to get involved in the rather messy business of trying to discern what is true.

Canon MARK BRYANT

Coventru

Sir: My eight-year-old son has muscular dystrophy. Yesterday he said to me: "You know this man. who says disabled people have been naughty. Is that why I am disabled?" David Aaronovitch (Comment, 2 February) may see Glenn Hoddle's views as eccentric. I see them as offensive and destructive. LUCY BAILY London SW14

Sir: As a person who is disabled C don't hear very well), I welcome Glenn Hoddle's view that I am paying the price for sins I have committed in previous lives. Perhaps I've come a long way already, and maybe I might make it to Heaven sooner than some of my able-bodied fellow-beings. **HILARY MARSH** London SW19

Sir. As a Buddhist I am used to the problems relating to the arguments regarding Karma. Very often the issue is difficult to resolve given the language of blame used by the majority of

The varying levels of Karma mean that disabled people of course must have done something extremely good in order to be born as human beings.

The tabloid press has once again latched onto the sound-bite instead of the issue. ROB WILLIAMS Canterbury

Sir. Glenn Hoddle's comments about disability deserve to be set against his actions on behalf of disable people

While in Moldova for the World Cup in September 1996, Mr Hoddle spearheaded a highly successful public appeal to help disabled girls living in appalling conditions in the Hincesti orphanage. Mr Hoddle, the England squad and the Football Association together donated £20,000 to relieve the plight of the girls.

Thanks to this support, the European Children's Trust was able to save more than twenty lives KATE PIERCE Campaign Manager The European Children's London EC4

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London EI4 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 017I 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Independent Eye No 3: Insurance assessors examine the Long Gallery of Holland House, a Jacobean mansion in west London, after its destruction by an incendiary in 1940. This week's series of photographs comes from 'An Independent Eye: A Century of Photographs' (Sutton Publishing, £20) Hulton Getty

Sir. Is it millennial madness? A football coach is reviled by a prime minister for believing in reincarnation. Yes, he has offended many people. What religious belief does not? And an MEP has to resign for bringing from Amsterdam a pornographic video and minuscule amounts of cocaine and cannabis.

Mackenzie King ran Canada for years, a spiritualist taking advice from his dog. Lloyd George was a notable lecher Winston Churchill was almost always drunk. Jack Kennedy set the pattern for White House shenanigans for Bill Clinton.

What qualities do we think necessary for statesmen, and football coaches? That they should be good, clever, even wise statesmen and football coaches. We must leave the gossip to magazines, private lives to their participants - and grow up. RONALD MAVOR Glasgow

Sir: The scorn and contempt with which one of the central beliefs of two of the world's great religions has been first distorted and then derided as "bizarre superstition" reveals an embarrassing

ignorance and an arrogant disdain which has it roots in racial and cultural prejudice. Glenn Hoddle might in future heed the advice of another beleaguered spiritual heretic who cautioned against casting pearls

before swin

SIERRA HUTTON-WILSON Evercreech, Sir: Glenn Moore, your football correspondent, referred to Glenn Hoddle's unfortunate remarks as "gratuitously offensive". The belief expressed by Mr Hoddle is one of

the core tenets of both the Hindu and Buddhist faiths. Am I then to assume that The Independent's position is that adherence to these aiths is also offensive? **BOB PINDER** London N22

Sir: The sick and vulnerable lying on trolleys; beggars on our streets; families desperately worried about their jobs and mortgages; the generation who saved this country from fascism expected to live on £75 a week and our Prime Minister appears on the Richard and Judy show. What have we done in a past life to deserve this? CLIFFORD FULLER Gloucester

Sir: What weight would the media attach to the thoughts of the Archbishop of Canterbury on the selection of players for the England football side? Should not the media give equal weight to Glenn Hoddle's religious views? MAYNARD HALL Wigton, Cumbria

Sir: So reincarnation is this country's fastest-growing religious opinion (Letters, 2 February). Not so. In the battle of the beliefs, the Hoddle squad barely dented the defences of the Premier Division top team - Political Correctness. MAX BERAN Didcot, Oxfordshire

### **Hidden ingredients**

Sir: Nick Brown, the Minister of Agriculture, claims that new EU labelling regulations will mean that people can "consume food

Sir: Pardon me for asking, but

why should we subsidise child-

rearing (Jean Molloy, letter, 2

asked. If the answer is "no", is

it right for the state to pick up

Sir: Why not transform the

to galvanise the passion for

tacky plastic symbol of a

millennium exhibition from a

materialist age into something

February)? Before having

children, the question "can

I/we afford it?" should be

the bill anyway?

BRIAN R MOORE

that they know does not contain GMOs [genetically modified organisms], if that's what they want to do". ("Restaurants must identify modified food", 1 February). He must have been very badly briefed.

Last week Worcestershire Scientific Services revealed that a third of the 200 products they had analysed contained genetically modified soya or maize. Only one product mentioned the fact on its label, and most companies claimed not to know that their products contained GM ingredients. And if companies don't know, they will not label their products.

Furthermore, the EU labelling law does not cover all GM oils and lecithin (a soya derivative), both present in much processed food, are exempt from the labelling scheme. PETE RILEY Food Campaigner Friends of the Earth London N1

Sir: Contrary to your article "Restaurants told to label modified food" Sainsbury's has never agreed to provide any information from its Reward Card database to the Government for any purpose. In fact we think the idea is daft. We have never given any indication that we would co-operate with

IN BRIEF

Government should purchase

the Rose Theatre replica from

Dame Judi Dench ("Dame Judi

plucks Rose that grew on her",

as a working theatre, whatever

1 February), place it in the Millennium Dome, and use it

Sir: May I please correct your

the weather.

MARTYN PHIPPS

Eastham, Merseyside

report (Parliament, 29

poetry and the arts? The

such a scheme or give the Ministry of agriculture personal information about individual customers.

JASON STEINBERG Senior Press Officer J Sainsbury London SE1

### Slow the car down

Sir: I agree with Ben Plowden. Director of the Pedestrians Association, that a range of alternatives must be developed to match the range of needs which. the private car satisfies (letter, 30 January). In parallel to this, the impact of vehicles on our roads is due for taming. A 20mph speed limit is the key to a more people friendly urban environment.

What we should be aiming for is a civilised use of vehicles, with a slower, safer and more even flow of traffic. The psychological effect of not expecting to be able to travel at any real speed would be enormous. More eye contact and interaction generally would help humanise our relationships as drivers and pedestrians. Drivers would be much more willing to keep the traffic flow moving by giving way to each other. Most signal-controlled pedestrian crossings could revert to ordinary zebra crossings.

Lower speeds reduce accidents

January)? I did not say that the

Government's pension reforms

were appalling. I was agreeing

when he lamented the fact that

one in three pensioners retired

on to means-tested assistance.

that figure would be reduced to

I asked him to confirm that

only one in four in 50 years'

he proposes come fully into

FRANK FIELD MP

(Birkenhead, Lab)

House of Commons

London SW1

time when the major reforms

with the Secretary of State

**MERVYN CURRAN** Oxford

and the damage to the human

school without suffering the

Children could walk or cycle to

casualty rates which have confined

them to cars in recent years. By

journeys by car on the one hand

and by bus and bike on the other,

their cars less. Smoothing traffic

The 20mph speed limit would

not be cost-free - there is no such

thing as a free lunch - but curbing

important part to play alongside

curbing the numbers of vehicles on

flow with less braking and

accelerating would reduce

the impact of traffic has an

pollution levels.

people would be encouraged to use

reducing the differential between

body when they do occur.

### Eating apes

Sir, The discovery that HIV comes from chimpanzees (report, 1 February) is further evidence of the dangers of Africa's escalating trade in meat from wild animals known as bush meat. Now that the link with HIV has been established, more pressure than ever should be applied to ensure that governments throughout west and central Africa take action to control the timber trade and prevent the widespread killing of protected species.

Our investigations have shown how chimpanzees, along with other endangered species, are being hunted commercially on a daily basis. The meat, which is sold at prices above that of farmed species, is supplied to workers in logging concessions and distributed widely to markets in towns and cities. The growth of logging in this region has opened access to previously inaccessible areas and has been the main contributory factor in enabling this trade to flourish. JONATHAN OWEN World Society for the Protection of **Animals** London SW8

#### The wrong economy

Sir: Fifteen thousand words in your I February issue on "the state of the world economy" and not one reference to those essential prerequisites of a healthy global economy: the environment and sustainable development.

Encouragingly, the articles do include reflections on social dimensions, highlighting the need to address the gross inequalities generated by existing financial and economic systems. However, there is host of long-standing evidence that present measures of economic and financial success are dangerously misleading if we are genuinely seeking to gauge human and environmental welfare.

Much economic "success simply ignores the actual social and environmental costs - whether these are local or global. A key aim for the millennium must be to devise measures of progress that give a properly rounded picture. Such measures would show for example, that the US economy is in grave danger of "defaulting" - on its obligations to stabilise carbon dioxide emissions, and that throughout the developed world, many patterns and elements of consumer spending are positively harmful. Are our "global financial architects" up to these challenges? BERNARD PAYNE

### School bags

Sir: You report (Health, 2 February) on how heavy school bags cause back problems. They are also a major reason why the campaign to get more children to walk to school, or bike or use public transport, is not working.

I weighed my 13-year-old daughter's school bag this morning. It weighed 12 pounds and she also had to take PE kit.

The main reason is that the old "classroom", where a class stays put and subject teachers come to it. has disappeared, as has the personal desk where books can be kept. There are two main reasons: the need to have "subject classrooms" full of posters and equipment to impress Ofsted inspectors; and the risk of vandalism to books and possessions not kept with the child at all times.

To save children's backs and quash the "school run" major changes are needed in the way schools work-not just new furniture.

**EMMATRISTRAM** Arundel, West Sussex

### No joke

Sir; Few would disagree with James Rampton (The shape of Arts to Come: Comedy, 1 February) that there are many indifferent comedians today with an overreliance on *Star Trek* and similar material, but his argument that gag-based comedy is dead has two major flaws.

You cannot rely on the anecdotal evidence of storytelling comedians and their agents. All comedians will happily criticise other comedy styles in an effort to validate their own. And whatever one thinks of the "provincial mega comedy clubs" and the "gagmeisters" that perform there, they are invariably packed with punters who are fully aware of what sort of comedy is on

The beauty of modern comedy is that performers of all styles can grace the same stage on the same night, and the vast majority of audiences seem to know what James Rampton doesn't: it is not the style of the comedy that matters, it is the content, KEVIN DAY London SW16.

### Trouble and strife

Sir: No one in a marriage service says "I do" as the question to bride and groom is "Will you?" (Faith and Reason, 30 January). I aiways had enough trouble getting them to repeat "Till death do us part" instead of the Alf Garnett programme title. The Rev JOHN FISHER Wells, Somerset

# No longer in the shadow of the King of Rock'n'Roll

Very Unusual Jobs Indeed No 51: An Elvis Presley

personator impersonator

"LET'S GET one thing straight," says Greg Thoms. "I'm not an Elvis impersonator. Elvis impersonators are two a penny. I impersonate Elvis impersonators. That's something quite different." Umm... how is it quite different?

Well, Elvis is the most impersonated singer in the world, right?" We suppose so.

"Suppose so? 'Course he's the most imitated singer in the world! Who else ever gets imitated that much? Buddy Holly a bit, Edith Piaf a bit. Marlene Dietrich quite a lot, down among the drag acts... And I've even seen Jimi Hendrix badly imitated. But those are the exceptions. Only the King has spawned that many imitators! Right?" Er, right..

"Right. I mean, you never saw Cliff Richard being imitated, did you? Even Mick Jagger doesn't get imitated, except maybe by Mick himself. Yeah, every time the Stones plan another final world tour, Mick has to get out his gear and see if he can still imitate

into a paroxysm of coughing. "Strewth. I shouldn't smoke the fags, I really shouldn't, but I can't

give 'em up. Strange really - the only vice Elvis didn't have, and it's the only one I've got! What was I on about? The art of impersonating im-

Greg Thomas guffaws and goes

personators... "Spot on! So I was! Well, thing is

thet all Elvis impersonators have developed certain tricks, certain

ways of doing things that Elvis never had. They've exaggerated Elvis's movements into mannerisms. You see an Elvis impersonator moving in certain ways because that's how an Elvis impersonator moves, not because it was the way Elvis moved. Geddit?" Yes, we think we get it. "Put it another way. Most

people alive never saw Elvis. Not many saw him in the flesh, and a lot more never even saw him on TV or film. Right? Most people have not seen Elvis performing, or if they have, not more than a few seconds on film. Yet everyone instantly recognises an Elvis impersonation. You see someone nunch his shoulders, twist his lip,

hood his eyes and make one leg



KINGTON

'If you look quite like Elvis, it merely underlines the fact that you aren't him'

longer than the other, and you just know he's imitating Elvis. But bow do you know?"

Um... because of all those Elvis impersonators you've seen? "Right! You're on the button! People now know about Elvis from the impersonators! Sooner or later

should impersonate the impersonators - and that person is me!" But in what way is an Elvis impersonator impersonator different from an Elvis impersonator?

it was inevitable that someone

"Good question. It shows you've been listening to what I've been saying. Now here's my answer. Because I'm five foot three, blond, with a bristling moustache." It's true. Greg Thoms looks nothing like Elvis at all.

"Now, here's the hook. All Elvis impersonators attempt to look like Elvis. Many of them look more like him than they sound or move like him. I'm the first guy that said - to

hell with it, I sound like Elvis and I'm going to do the Elvis act even though I look nothing like him! And in a way, that works to my advantage. I get up on stage. People say, "This guy looks nothing like the King!" Then I start moving and singing, and I do move and sing like the King, so all at once people are saying, "Hey, this little blond guy is

act! He could be Elvis!" Well, there I have an advantage. If you look quite like Elvis, it merely underlines the fact that you aren't him. If you look nothing like him, it underlines how well you are impersonating him." Isn't that a bit ... post-modernist

or something? "Yeah, probably. Probably ironic,

too. Don't forget ironic." Well, it is ironic to think thet a short moustached blond guy should make his living out of perpetuating the Elvis tradition, isn't it?

"Who's to say? After all. Elvis himself changed as well. He started out as a thin, brown-haired guy. He dyed his hair black, he ended up immensely fat, but he was always Elvis, no matter what shape. You know, if a guy who was immensely fat decided to be an Elvis imperdoing an amazing Elvis Presley sonator, and came on stage and did nothing hut eat hamburgers and take drugs, who's to say it wouldn't be a great impression?" But nobody would pay to see it.

"Yeah, you're probably right ... Well, excuse me. I got a show to do." As we leave the dressing-room. be's grooming his moustache. I had never imagined what Elvis would look like with a small moustache before. Now that I have seen Greg Thoms, I still can't.



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School bags

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No joke

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The Independent 3 February 1999

## \*THE INDEPENDENT

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### The crucial next stage of European integration

IN PLEDGING ground troops to any Kosovo peace agreement, Britain and France are trying to send a tough message to Belgrade. At the same time, they are now presented with a precious opportunity. The embryonic "European defence identity" desperately needs added political commitment and military muscle; warning that European troops will be sent, without depending on the Americans to act first, is a sign that it is acquiring them.

This Government has made much of its commitment to such an identity. As Doug Henderson, the Armed Forces Minister, argued on Monday, a European leg of Nato should be able to act with "authority and decisiveness". The St Malo pact of last December, in which the French and British agreed to unprecedented levels of military co-operation, and that such issues could be brought before the EU Council of Ministers, proved to be one of the few high points of the Prime Minister's much-expressed wish to "lead in Europe".

The merger boom in European defence industries is another reason why such a defence union is desirable. A single European defence arm could order weapons on the scale of the US armed forces, matching their scale and scope. The Government has already been promoting such endeavours, which is why the Prime Minister was embarrassed that British Aerospace has chosen to merge with GEC. rather than with the German company Dasa.

Europeans should be able to manage their own affairs, rather than look to the Americans to intervene. It is hard enough to persuade Britons that their forces should fight for small states in the Balkans. Why then should boys from Kansas or Indiana feel that their vital interests are at stake?

This need not cause friction with the Americans, or threaten the future of Nato. A vigorous European assertion of military independence may be welcome in Washington, as shoring up the Nato structure. Better to deal with one confident voice, rather than a discordant ensemble. Successive residents of the White House have, since the Sixties, yearned after a reliable and strong European ally that took off them some of the weight of being world policeman; now such a partner could be in sight.

The British and French made themselves look foolish in Bosnia, using the refusal of the US to commit ground troops before a peace agreement had been reached, to limit their own efforts to supplying food to the victims. Many innocent people had to die before the excuse withered as the Americans joined in air strikes. It is to be hoped that Robin Cook's strong words mean such a tragedy will not be repeated. But it is also possible that operations undertaken in the name of Europe will allow more decisive and immediate action, and herald a crucial new stage of European integration.



### The valuable lessons of this sorry Hoddle affair

GLENN HODDLE must this morning be reflecting on what might have been. Neither his skill as a player, nor his managerial achievements with Chelsea and Swindon, reached the heights his talents promised: he seems unable to carry any project to fruition. Now, after only two-and-a-half years as England manager, he stands humiliated. He has achieved little on the field of play and has, through his handling of the job, made a post that should be the pinnacle of sporting achievement even less attractive.

Hoddle should have known that any hint of controversy would be jumped on. He long ago forfeited public support, as a catalogue of incidents revealed his character for all to see - eccentric, stubborn, reckless, indiscreet. The saga over his World Cup diaries and the figure of Eileen.

Drewery lurking in the shadows did irreparable damage to his image. Refusing to select the supremely gifted Michael Owen and David Beckham in the first stages of the World Cup was an obvious error; it is little surprise that England's European Championship campaign has begun badly. He compounded the mistake with the publication for some personal profit - of his World Cup diaries, which included private discussions with players.

Hoddle may feel aggrieved at the storm he provoked by an aside about the disabled, but the fact is that today no nublic figure can speak out without being noticed. They have a duty-to act responsibly with regard to issues such as race, disability and sexuality. In that situation, his attempt to cling to his job has been misguided.

Ironically, some good has emerged from the whole affair. At least no one else was prepared to argue that the disabled were paying for sins in a past life; even Hoddle himself, once he realised the trouble he was in, tried to argue that his appalling comments had been "miscon-

strued". The right of the disabled to take part in society, and the social stigma attached to those who ridicule them. have gained appreciably. Another topic as unfashionable and difficult as disability - religion - has also been given a public airing. The flaws in the fashion for muddled, pickand-mix "New Age" spiritualism have been demonstrated; everyone has been reminded that the expression of private religious beliefs must not insult other citizens.

The FA must also learn its lessons. In future, England coaches should not be permitted to sell stories to the press. one of the original sins that eroded Hoddle's support. He earns enough to have open and cordial relations with the press, as in the US, without being paid for the privilege. Indeed, it would be beneficial if such a code were to be enforced across the sport, for football has been marred by the secrecy and arrogance of too many of its functionaries. If such changes now ensue, at least the FA and football will have gained from all this. It is just a pity that, in making such gains, offence had to be caused.

# Worcester woman and Woking man favour cloning. So that's OK then

HARK! I hear the low rumble of another focus group. The people have recentled details in the unit century. other focus group. The people have spoken; the note-takers behind the two way mirror are their witness. Quick! Call for a Cahinet committee on how to restore confidence in whatever it is they are not feeling confident about now.

Whitehall has announced the creation of a panel on bio-ethics. The Government has noted "signs of concern, particularly among younger, workingclass women" about cloning, genetically modified food and gene research.

There are issues here which are debates about the nature of life itself," said Stephen Byers, the Government's Captain Sensible, adding gravely that the public must be "taken with" scientists on the road to enlightenment.

Rarely have policy makers outed themselves so boldly as the puppets of public opinion. Nothing of interest to young, female, working-class voters as read. But what if middle aged, middle-income men in key marginals, or upwardly mobile, married women in the South-east who once voted Lib Dem, were to declare themselves in favour of cloning. Would that make it

all right? Cloning humans may be right or it may be wrong. It offers a chance to redress the misery of infertility and to evade hereditary illnesses. It also treats the genetic core of a human being as manipulable, with profound consequences for the way in which we look at what it means to be a person and thus the uniqueness of human life. Dealing with our new-found ability to

class has become entirely over-

heated about a news story that

independent counsel Ken Starr

has concluded that a presi-

dent may be indicted while

still in office. Such a conclusion

by Starr would seem to help the

just as managing with the destructive potency of the atom bomb has towered over this one.

Wherever you stand on cloning, the ethical status of this awesome innovation cannot be determined by recourse to the sensibilities of a room full of Manchester machinists on a wet Friday afternoon. The state of affairs in which an entire government, full of people who have plentiful time and resources to consult experts and take decisions, ends up passing the buck back to a harassed and underinformed group of voters, is a recent one. It is ably mocked in Warren Beatty's new film Bultoorth, about a politician who suddenly bucks the pollsters and starts speaking his mind. Beatty'a own view of the dominance

of focus groups is arresting. "If someone wants to win an election, he can't lead; he must follow, because the technological means are such that you can get so much halor mation so quickly you just follow it, and I think that basically, that's a bunch of bullshit," he said irra recent interview. Or as the revolutionary Ledru-

Rollin put it more concisely in 1848. "I am their leader: I must follow them." Not for the first time, the Government is mistaking squeamishness and distaste for solid reasons to act. When the Health Minister Tessa Jowell issued the weird edict that surrogacy, while legal, was to be discouraged by limiting the amount of money that might be paid to the host

mother she was imposing her own

aversion to surrogacy (or was it that



### ANNE **MCELVOY**

The Government's approach - test how squeamish the public is and stop scientists there - just will not hold

of some focus group the week before?)

on the existing law. Of course, our morality is socially conditioned. Laws can work only if most of us believe in the principles on which they are based, but making rules according to the public's wandering whim is a recipe for bad legislation. A consistent majority favours restoring the death penalty. Successive governments have nonetheless concluded that the taking of life is a punishment so barbarous that it has to be disallowed, whatever its social utility. We do not always regard the plebiscite as the last and

commanding resort of truth. One of the most intriguing comments on the matter was offered by Prospect magazine, which recently polled people on how much they wanted to be polled by government.

**MONITOR** 

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

US comment on the possibility of Clinton

being indicted while still in office

It found that 43 per cent of respon-dents thought politicisms should be prepared to take decisions that go against the majority view.

Most people would concede that, great though the power of commonsense caution may be, it cannot be applied without modification, as a tourniquet on progress. Public opinion on science is notoriously fickle. Had a focus group in the 18th century been asked whether scientists preaching that new-fangled vaccination theory should be allowed to inject patients with small doses of cowpox, they would probably have said "no". Everyone was against test-tube babies until they cooed over the first pictures of Louise Brown.

At present, genetics sounds scary because the only accessible image we have of it in practice is Dolly the sheep. That will change once the benefits of tissue-cloning are seen in the bypassing of hereditary diseases and the replacement of missing limbs. The "Frankenstein ductors" who are "playing God" in the headlines today will become the "miracle-workers" of tomorrow - until the next morally

ambiguous case comes along. The Government's approach - test to see how squeamish the public is, and stop the scientists right there will not hold. Scientists have been round this course many times before, and will respond by presenting the most persuasive example of the benefits of their work

The divide between cloning tissue and cloning people, which the regulatory bodies are now seeking to keep intact, will soon prove porous. Exist-

erreation of countilities cause and up to three embryos a cycle. Ask a woman who has had several houts of ovulatory stimulation, with the attendant cancer risk whether that is more acceptable and natural than replicating embryos by cloning, and she would be tempted to opt for the clone. The regulatory intent of the Government will, I predict, be shattered

within a few years. But politicians have an erratic interest in cause and effect. They are generally in favour of bans as the most effective solution to a dilemma, regardless of whether the banning will have any effect. The most ludicrous piece of legislation was the decision to outlaw handguns in the wake of Dunblane. No one realistically expected to see a fail in the gur crime figures as a result; the outlawing of guns became a symbol of good intentions, and pity for the victims of a terrible crime. Logic was powerless

Focus groups are a useful research tool for anyone with something to sell to the public - a vacuum cleaner, a policy, a set of political beliefs. You won't find me moaning about New Labour's use of them. The party's embrace of this method of polling before the last election was a sign that it was seriously prepared to reconnect with the voters and address their concerns and reservations. Polls are a useful tool of democracy, a link between the governors and the governed. But they are not an alternative to thought and leadership on the great matters

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY "The holiday of a lifetime has turned into

a real horror holiday." Frank Coyle, one of the passengers thrown off a flight for brawling

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Which is it, is man one of God's blunders or is God one of man's?" Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche, German philosopher

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President's supporters - it helps them make the argument that, "If you think the President Jaughable PR stunt Boston Herald should be punished, here's how to do it without removing him AT THE moment, the authority from office: let the grand jury indict him and proceed from for deciding Clinton's fate lies

District of Columbia jury is

not likely to convict Clinton of

anything less than cannibalism

caught on tape.) The request to

a federal judge by President Clinton's chief lawyer, David

Kendall, to hold Starr in con-

WASHINGTON'S POLITICAL there." (It's not that simple. A

tempt of court for violating grand jury secrecy is a quite

with the Senate. If it removes ica Lewinsky scandal should him. Starr will have an open field to prosecute. If the Senate chooses to leave the President in office, the legaldrop this idea. ity of his conduct in the Mon-Chicago Tribune

be put aside until he has completed his term. If Starr has any sense of proportion, he will

different matter from raising the threat of indictment before he leaves office, with all that could mean to the functioning of government and foreign relations. The leak was no doubt meant to remind everyone of the formidable power Starr possesses. It is proof of how unwisely that power can be used.

stood that Clinton could face many constitutional scholars criminal charges once no say a sitting president can't be longer President. But that is a indicted, the answer should be obvious: pursuing a criminal case against an implausibly popular president who has survived an impeachment trial would be an intolerable arrogation of power - a gesture of contempt not just for Clinton but for the people's will and for the designated jurors in the Senate.

IT HAS always been under- APART FROM the fact that

### **PANDORA**

JOURNALISTS AT The Express are buzzing with news of yet another new editor. This time the person being considered is someone with no formal journalistic experience, and he is expected to have the shortest editorship in *The Express*'s history. Who could it be? None other than the boss of Virgin Radio, Mr Christopher Evans (pictured). For about four months, Express editor Rosie Boycott - who did a stint as guest editor of Campaign - has been trying to woo the breakfast presenter to edit one issue of the paper. Earlier this week. The Mirror's editor, Piers Morgan, agreed to swap jobs with Mandi Norwood, editor of Cosmopolitan. Does this mean we'll see Rosie Boycott appearing in Freak or Unique? on TFI Friday?

celebrated bible of orgasm, the American division is planning to launch a junior edition. Hearst Magazines, the US publisher, recently confirmed that it has "been looking into the American teen market for some time". But how about the UK? Don't our teens need to be enlightened, too? Pandora tracked down a spokeswoman for Cosmopolitan in London who told her: "We haven't made any announcements about that at all." Funnily enough, those exact words were then used when Pandora double-checked with Hearst in New York. Ten ont of ten for coordination. Does this mean

SPEAKING OF

Cosmopolitan, the

THE CURSE of Mandelson would seem to have struck in Germany. Bodo Hombach, Minister without Portfolio and election strategist to Gerhard Schröder, has often been described as Mandelson's

we can expect a joint

doppelgånger. Sadly for Hombach, a case of the "Notting Hillgates" struck this week, with allegations that Hombach had used money from a company slush fund to buy his home. Hombach denies any impropriety over his house, hought 13 years ago. However, segior politicians are calling for his

resignation. Pandora contacted Peter Mandelson to see whether he could offer any advice for his German colleague, but was told that he would be unlikely to make any comment on the matter: "He is trying to keep a low profile at the moment" came the honest reply from Mandy's office.

"Doily"

THE TRADITIONAL sabbath dinner is usually au occasion when Jewish families get together and tuck into chicken sonp and chopped liver. Last Friday night was no exception. Pandora was pleased to see 150 of the most infinential people in the Jewish community – incinding Natan Sharansky, Israel's minister of Trade and Industry, Robert Rubin. the US Secretary of the Treasury, and Zalman Shoval, the ambassador of Israel to the United States enjoying a traditional kosher meal at the World Economic Forum in Davos. The dinner included Pandora's favourite, gefilte fish. It was probably the most powerful sabbath dinner of the year. Unfortunately, Jackie Mason was not invited to be a guest speaker.

NOT EVERY Old Labour MP has an aversion to the Liberal Democrats. Despite the stance of a lack of interest taken by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, the icon of traditional Labour values, the Grimsby MP Austin Mitchell has got so close to the Lib Dems that he is even taking photos of them. Pandora spotted the veteran MP at last week's Lib Dem parliamentary party meeting snapping away merrily for his forthcoming book, Parliament in Pictures. Mitchell's presence was a source of great amusement but he found that his hosts made him more than welcome: "I sat through the first two items of the meeting and left before the more sensitive ones," he told Pandora, adding, "they were very friendly and cooperative." Hasn't Tony been trying to say this all along?

A MUSICAL of Zippergate is due to start in Hollywood in a fortnight. Storr. Struck will take a witty, raunchy, intelligent, hilarious and surprisingly emotional look" at

the scandal. Of course, it was only a matter of such a production got under way. There is no

shortage of musical material about President Clinton's liaison. with amusing song parodies that have been doing the rounds, such as "I let an intern go down on me" sung to the tune of Elton John's "Don't let the sun go down on me"

You can contact Pandora by e-mail: pandora@ independent.co.uk

the Gershwin classic.

and "Our love is here to

stain", an adaptation of

# Too clever by centre-half

ARE FOOTBALLERS stupid? That's been one of the fall-out topics from the Hoddle affair. The answer is that they are no more stupid than pop stars or politicians who get carried away with their own self-importance and pontificate on subjects they know not enough about.

They can seem less clever than your average run-of-the-mill millionaire superstar because they rarely have the Latin. Their schooling hardly existed. From the age of seven, they knew they were going to become professional footballers, so their grasp of grammar, as in Hoddle's case, can often be a bit dodgy. They are brought up in a hothouse atmosphere, with life organ-ised around them to bring out only one aspect of their talents and personality. Little wonder you see few of them being elected as Fellows of All Souls, whatever that might prove. Most of them are equally lopsided in their development, stunted in their personal growth, only one of their talents having been properly cultivated. Cleverness, after all, is a minor gift, especially if it happens

we quiz footballers and pop stars on favourite foods and sexual positions

HUNTER

DAVIES

In our celebrity culture,

rooms makes it hard for players to do other than confirm to the laddish, anti-intellectual norm. Gazza'a drunken bouts, or John Hartson kicking lumps out of other people even those on his own side - are acceptable, whereas sitting in a corner of the dressing-room reading a book is not.

to he your only gift.

The culture of football dressing-I remember, in the Spurs dressing room in the Seventies, how

was mocked - behind his back, of course; he was a big bloke - for having an unusual bome. It was a one-off, architect-designed house instead of the usual off-the-peg mock Tudor estate house which most players, then and now, aspire to. He gave parties there, with but-

lers serving champagne, and had guests from the non-football world. Very weird, so the rest of the lads thought. Pretentious or what?
In the current Chelses dressingroom, Graeme Le Saux gets the piss taken for being an Independent newspaper sort of chap. Before him, Pat Nevin was ridiculed for

going to art galleries and museums.
They go round the world, these
modern footballers, but mostly they
sit on the coach or in the hotel bedroom and play cards, ignoring what they might be doing or seeing. Most of them regret it later, but at the time, their managers like them to be blinkered, concentrating only on the next 90 minutes.

There are exceptions - but you have to be exceptional to get away with it. Cantona had some dopey ideas, but because he was brilliant

at his job, and also a foreigner, he was not mocked by his fellow players. At least, not to his face.

Hoddle's thoughts have been pjectionable, as well as dopey, but this is very rare, though many successful managers have been weird in their own particular ways. Bill Shankly was blinded to the point of being unbalanced by anything in life except football, taking his wife on honeymoon to watch Liverpool - or was it Tranmere? - reserves. Brian Clough had his minor daffnesses, such as wearing carpet slippers to training, and major ones, like treating his players like children; but as long as he, like Shanks, was successful, none of that daftness mat-

tered. He got treated like a god. It is our fault, in the end. We are just as dopey. In our celebrity culture, we ask pop stars and famous footballers about their favourite holidays, favourite foods, favourite sexual positions, if only as a way of filling up a cheap and easy question-and-answer column of the sort all papers now do. Then we throw in some weightier ones, such as abortion, the euro, reincarnation. fairies, space men, feng shui (what-

ever that is), and solemnly write it all down, as if a lab singer or fave footballer has any more insight on these subjects than the rest of us. But we love reading the answers. I read every one.

They of course then get carried away, as John Lennon did with his remarks about Jesus. They begin to think their views are interesting, not to say important. Even Mrs Thatcher, for all her O-levels and brilliant success, went potty in the end, spouting nonsense and spite, gotting carried away with her own power and self-importance.

Hoddle is, in fact, an exception. with his unusual views and selfdelusions. Most players keep their heads down and their opinions to themselves. It's only later that you realise: Yeah, what an intelligent person: how astute, despite the lack of formal education."

Take Gary Lineker and David Platt, for example. I'd like my younger daughter to come home with either of them. Or similar: As Both of them are rounded, talented personalities. And clever, oh yes, It's a mark of being really clever, to survive having been a footballer.

# This Government is more Old Labour than it thinks

LAST NIGHT our shiny new Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Stephen Byers, made his first Mansion House speech to an eager City audience waiting for assurance that the Mandelsonian agenda would be safe in his hands, A fair indication of his speech could be had from Andy Grice's pre-speech coverage in yesterday's Independent, which confidently predicted that it would anger left-wingers who, we were told, would see it as another attempt by the Government to abandon Labour's traditional commitments. The "arch moderniser" Stephen

was boldly to assert that wealth creation is more important than wealth redistribution, and one traditional old Labour MP was quoted as saying: "The tax and benefits system must be used for some redistribution of is not something that Labour has wealth. The fact is, if you are creating wealth you have got to use it in the most positive way possible, which means giving it to people of lower means."

But the idea that Labour has only just woken up to the fact that you need a dynamic economy to create both work for your people and wealth to sustain the physical and social infrastructure of society, is bizarre. Labour governments have always sought to try to regenerate the real economy.

In the past this was always seen as rebuilding the traditional manufacturing base that had invariably fared poorly during the intervening periods of Tory government. Now that our traditional manufacturing base has shrunk to such a small proportion of the British economy, Labour's emphasis is geared to producing a highly skilled workforce who can shift successfully from one sunrise industry to another as they rise and decline.

But this revelation that the nature of the British economy has changed



### KEN LIVINGSTONE

Middle England is ready for much more radical change and boldness from this Government

only recently awoken to.

In the first months of Neil Kinnock's leadership of the Labour Party in 1983, he and I co-operated closely to co-ordinate the campaigns of the Labour Party and the Greater London Council which were emphasising the importance of building a "high-skill, hi-tech" economy both in London and nationwide. Neil Kinnock launched the GLC's campaign in 1984 with a speech in which he said: "Labour must become the party of production, not merely a party of redistribution".

Following my election to Labour's National Executive in 1987 I became a member of the Productive and Competitive Economy party, preparing Labour's economic policies for the 1992 election, Under Bryan Gould's chairmanship we reviewed the whole long history of Britain's economic decline and came up with a complete package of radical policies based on creating a highly educated workforce for modern, hi-tech industries.

I can't recall any meeting in the

two years the working party met at which anybody suggested that we could simply rely on redistribution of wealth to create the kind of society we wanted to see.

Nor is it the case that these views existed only in the rarefied atmosphere around the leadership. Throughout my 12 years in Parliament I have attended the weekly meetings of the Socialist Campaign Group of Labour MPs, where the followers of the true faith lurk in the primeval Labour undergrowth, and yet I have never heard anybody at any of our meetings oppose the need to create a modern, dynamic

Our criticisms of successive Labour leaders have been about the levels of taxation and public spending and the scale of redistribution. No one has ever suggested, at any left-wing meeting I have ever been to, inside or outside Parliament, that wealth creation is not relevant to the politics of redistribution.

So what is the point of difference between what Stephen Byers said last night and traditional Labour values, that leads anyone to think that this is some significant shift in Labour Party policy? Perhaps it is the influence of the spin doctors. Here was a perfectly normal speech that could have been made by any Labour Trade and Industry secretary, including Tony Benn or Frank Cousins, but if it can be sold to the press as some redefining of Labour's traditional values, or even better-as some subtext to the "great project", then it takes on a new significance.

The Byers incident is in many ways typical of all that has happened in the projection of government policy. Since Labour came to power Gordon Brown has dramatically start has begun the expansion of as the spin doctors placed their de- about our business.



Stephen Byers, the 'shiny new' trade and industry secretary

public spending to restore the ceptive and demoralising gloss on

In the field of industrial relations, the introduction of a minimum wage and a basic package of trade union rights has begun to shift the balance of power in the workplace. Somewhat hesitantly a massive programme of constitutional change has begun which will lead to Britain becoming a devolved, decentralised and more democratic modern European state. Once the reforms to the House of Lords have been carried through, then the huge majorities in the House of Commons for a lowered age of consent for gay men and the banning of blood sports will no longer be thwarted by an outdated and undemocratic assembly.

more than glance at the headlines in British papers during this last year and a half or so would have assumed that the New Labour Government had firmly rejected a hundred years' increased taxes, and after a slow tradition of fighting for social justice,

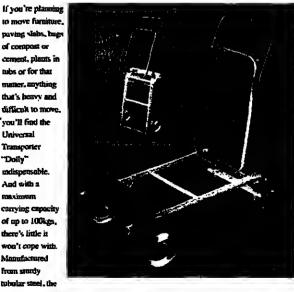
damage done in the years of the virtually every action of the Government in order to appeal to some mythical mid-market tabloid reader in Chipping Sodbury.

In reality middle England is ready for much more radical change and boldness from this government. But then perhaps all our spin is really designed to reassure barons such as Rupert Murdoch - and Wall Street and other interests - than any domestic political constituency. This does not mean, as anybody

who has read the writings of Roy Hattersley can confirm, that there are not passionate debates going on inside the Labour Party about levels of tax and public spending and the degree to which wealth should be redistributed. These debates will Yet anybody who had done no continue. But unlike the great ideological schism that has torn the Conservative Party to pieces, Labour's rows will be about how far and how fast we are to go. If only we could retire the spin doctors, we'd also no doubt be a lot happier as we went

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### The storm clouds have lifted

was a triumph - right across Europe, including here in the UK. That is a great tribute to Europe's central

banks - including the ECB [European Central Bank]. But it is a great tribute, too, to the dedication and professionalism of the thousands of market participants who played their part in this extraordinary achievement - including those here in the City. The members of the gov-

erning council of the ECB -individually and collectively are committed to the view that effective price stability is a necessary condition for the sustainable growth of output and employment. So, too, are we in this country.

In this sense price stability is not simply an end in itself Our aim, like yours in the Eurozone, is to keep aggregate demand in the economy hroadly and more or less continuously in line with the underlying capacity of the economy to meet that demand. Consistently low inflation is the measure of our success in

THE TRANSITION to the through monetary policy euro over the year end directly to affect the underlyingrate of growth of productive capacity. That is determined by the structural, supply-side characteristics of the economy.

Demand management, including monetary policy, cannot substitute for the structural reforms that are needed to improve the flexibility with which the economy as a whole responds to change. However we can, through monetary policy, aim to create an environment of stability - avoiding either excessive or deficient demand. That is the best help that we can give.

Assessing the prospective pressure of demand is extraordinarily difficult. It is especially difficult as a result of the uncertainties created by the recent turbulence in the world's financial markets.

The immediate international priority was to contain the financial contagion - and there was some progress in this direction following the initial shocks in Asia. But after a series of new shocks during the summer-Russia, LTCM flongterm credit management), the achieving that aim. There is not deepening recession in Japan much that either of us can do and the worsening position in



Podium **EDDIE GEORGE** 

From a speech by the Governor of the Bank of England to the annual banquet of the Bankers Club in London

Brazil - the prospects, at around the time of the IMF meeting in Washington last autumn, were looking hleak. The atmosphere among commercial and investment

bankers - particularly in the United States - was as nervous as I can remember. Now, you will carely hear a

central banker predicting fine weather - and I have no intention of hreaking that convention. However, the dark- out jeopardising price stability

est storm clouds have lifted a Indeed, we need to see higher little since the Fund meeting. Vigilance remains the watchword. But the risks of general, widespread, international financial disturbance have certainly receded. But we are now having to

cope with the economic consequences of the earlier financial disturbances. The inevitable counterpart of recession in much of the rest of the world is a sharp slowdown of net external demand - particularly for manufacturers - in the industrial world. That has been reflected in growing weakness and falling business confidence. The prospect for growth in world economic activity has already roughly halved - from its trend rate of around 4 per cent. And unless this fall in net external demand is offset by stronger domestic demand growth in the industrial counties, the out-

look will be dismal. Happily we start from a position of relatively low infla-tion throughout the industrial world and, faced with weakening external demand, we can afford to see higher offsetting domestic demand growth with-

domestic demand growth than we would otherwise, if overall demand is not to fall short of underlying supply-side capacity, so exerting an unnecessary and unwanted further downward pressure on domestic prices. We need it, too, to offset the effects of weak world prices and lower exchange rates in many emerging market producers on our own domestic

price level.

All we can realistically attempt is continuously to ess the aggregate prospects for our separate economies in the light of the continual stream of new information. In that light we must be prepared to contemplate the further easing of monetary policy if overall demand seems likely to fall short of what we had previously anticipated, or, in due course, to move to tighten policy if domestic demand grows too rapidly, or the world economy begins to recover.

By the time we next meet

together for this great annual occasion, Y2K [the year 2000] will be behind you, and if you have survived that then you can survive

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# Smoking out the hypocrites



### **DEBORAH ORR**

I spent an extremely relaxed Sunday with a prominent MEP, sharing a couple of joints of skunk

THERE ARE 87 British MEPs, just 15 of them Conservative, and they all seem united in their lack of sympathy with Tom Spencer's fall. His crimes, the law enforcers have made it abundantly clear do not amount to very much in their book - a £550 spot fine and no further questions asked. The politicians, bowever, take a sterner view and need nothing less than the ruin of a solid and useful political career.

It's an emerging pattern. The law no longer feels it useful to mete out serious punishment on some matters - particularly for crimes involving personal drug use - but employers take up the gauntlet instead, not just in high-profile cases such as this one, but routinely as workplace drug-testing becomes ever more prevalent. Why is it that employers can be judge and jury, while judges and juries are not considered to be necessary in resolving these matters? Surely there is something intrinsically unfair and undemocratic in the trend towards civil punishment

I for one find Tom Spencer's blanket civil punishment for a ragbag of crimes and misdemeanours confusing, especially when no guidelines beyond media speculation are given as to what the sacking offence was. Everyone's agreed that it's not because be's gay, while the legal action taken against him suggests that he's not considered to be a criminal, because he has not been charged. Even the gay videos seem to have been not porn as such hut a memento from a lover who had been sanctioned by his wife.

It must surely be the gram and a half of cocaine that be told customs he was also carrying which think it's important that this should be precisely and publicly stated. We can't carry on lumping class A and class B drugs in together as equally heinous, because it's no longer making any sense at all, to either adults or children.

I'd certainly welcome some clarity on the matter because there's one thing I know for sure. Tom Spencer isn't the only MEP who has ever inhaled cannabis. Last summer I spent an extremely pleasant and notably relaxed Sunday afternoon with a prominent MEP with whom the assembled



Forced out: Tom Spencer, the disgraced Tory MEP, with his wife Liz and daughters Lorna, Sophia and Venitia at their Surrey bome

company shared a couple of joints' of skunk weed.

He didn't appear to be a habitual user, nor did he seem to be an ingénu. Although he of course knew that smoking dope was illegal, his actions suggested that he was not remotely in agreement with the law on this matter (despite the fact that his publicly stated views on drugs have suggested a different view).

Maybe be's forgotten the entire incident, for the drug did have a minor detrimental effect on his short-term memory. He telephoned us later in the day and explained jovially that after leaving the party he had treated himself to a postsound of Radio 4 paying tribute to William Burroughs, who had died the previous evening, he awoke to bear some biographical details about Samuel Taylor Coleridge drifting from the radio.

"Goodness," he thought "This is a beavy weekend for druggie writers! They're dropping like flies!" A few moments later, he recalled that in fact Coleridge had been lost to the world some time before that weekend, and put his temporary lapse down to the heady substance he'd partaken of after hinch. His call to share this with us confirmed that

he clearly considered the whole experience to have been an amusing adventure and nothing more.

Now his memory appears to have failed him again, because be feels no need to stand up and be counted alongside Tom Spencer as a cannabis dabbles Certainly, Spencer has broken the law in using cannabis, but this gentleman has too. I have no wish to name Pothead MEP number two, because, along with his penchant for a little blow, he has another thing in common with Tom Spencer. He is a good and diligent member of the European Parliament, committed both to

people of his calibre over a crime such as this one, any more than we can afford to lose Tom Spencer. Anyway, such a cull, if embarked on, would be massive. A fifth of new MPs who joined the Commons after the last election admit to having taken cannabis; Clare Short got berself into bot water for hinting that some of ber ministerial colleagues had taken cannabis, and even MPs who themselves have never taken cannabis can be no more certain than Jack Straw that they speak for

Europe and to his British voters.

their nearest and dearest, too. This is the central reason why the Government's enthusiasm for zero tolerance for even class B drugs is ill-advised and, in broader terms, is why the law and and the police appear unwilling to enforce such a policy. Schools too, have sensibly declared themselves unwilling to exclude pupils who are caught with cannabis. And even the drugs tsar, Keith Hellawell, seems reluctant fully to embrace the mantra of his masters, as he advises that employees failing drug tests should be offered help and not their P45s. Unappointed guardians of the nation's moral welfare would be

erance to cannabis, either. In a ulation admitted to having tried it. They can't all be forced to resign from their jobs. And we can't operate sensibly as a society with a degree of hypocrisy as buge as this and so very plain to see. Just as I have to square the de-

best advised not to apply zero tol-

cent, intelligent MEP with a fat joint in his hand with the man who won't lift those same fingers to defend his fellow Europhile, children up and down the country have to square information demonising dope smokers with glimpses of their upstanding and otherwise law-

abiding parents doing odd things to

cigarettes after they're supposed to

I'm reminded of my dope-smoking friend who was asked whether she'd be taking her children oo the legalise cannabis march organised by this paper's sister, The Independent on Sunday, under the editorship of Rosie "Rizla" Boycott, "God, no," she guffawed. "They'd be absolutely furious if they found out that that stuff their mother smokes was actually an illegal substance!"

Like her, I don't particularly want to rock the boat. I don't think cannabis should be legalised immediately, but I do think that general attitudes to drugs, and schools, should fully reflect the tolerant attitudes displayed by the legal profession and the police towards cannabis offences.

I don't even reject links between cannabis and harder drugs. As beavy drinkers are more likely to smoke, smokers are more likely to be cannabis users, and cannabis users are more likely to use hard drugs. We have as much chance of changing this pattern as we have of achieving prohibition of alcohol.

Legality and illegality has little to do with it, beyond the fact that pushing people into the black mar-

### RIGHT OF REPLY

**ALISON** CRONIN



director of Monkey

World answers Terence Blacker's article on attitudes to animal welfare

TERENCE BLACKER'S article on Tuesday about public attitudes to animals was seriously misinformed and unhelpful. Please allow me to correct him.

First, if Mr Blacker had ever visited Monkey World then be would know that Trudi, the rescued chimpanzee, like all our apes, does not live in a cage, but in a twoacre enclosure.

Second, Mr Blacker quotes the much-publicised recent scientific research that claims that West African chimpanzees are where Aids started. However, these findings seem to me to be very shaky; as they are based on a very small number of chimps - three - found carrying the disease out of a population of many thousands. The exact transmission mechanism of HIV to bumans is also left unclear in the accounts of this so-called breakthrough. I am not convinced.

**Bob Barclay** 

Let to obtain something as ubiqui-

tous as cannabis may oot he belp-

ful in breaking the soft drugs-to-

But I do think that we have to be

absolutely honest if we are to bring

up our children to understand the

true dangers of drugs. Children

don't like being lied to, and the use

of cannabis is too widespread for

them to know only what they are

New Scientist has told us: alcohol

use is more damaging than cann-

abis use. Then they'll have far more

reason to believe their teachers

when they are told about the very

drugs. All the withdrawal of Tom

Spencer from public life has taught

them is that we're as unsure about

wbat's right, wbat's wrong and

what's tolerable as they are. It's not

much of a message. Edward McMillan-Scott, who led

the delegation of Tory MEPs ask-

ing for Spencer's resignation,

should now give a clear and un-

equivocal statement explaining just

exactly why it was that his colleague

had to go, and which of his crimes,

if committed by other elected rep-

resentatives, would lead inexorably

to their own resignation.

rs of far more da

They ought to be told what the

told about it at school.

hard drugs chain.

However, most importantly, Mr Blacker is wrong to suggest that the British public is too sentimental about animals -what he calls "Trudification". In fact the British public rightly wants to be informed about the kind of cruelty that Mary Chipperfield was engaged in. The media should highlight it. And, of course, Animal Defenders, the group that investigated the abuse, deserves credit. Above all, there is a need for

detter legislation on the wel fare of circus animals. Compared to those for zoo animals the guidelines for inspections are rather vague. In this country you can own any animal you like. The Dangerous Wild Animals Act is too weak. It still allows people to own chimps, tigers and other wild animals with only the say-so of a local vet and the local health and safety authorities. Only when the law is changed will chimps such as Trudy have a chance of humane treatment.

# The gospel according to Ludovic

SEX IN anything other than the missionary position, according to Ludovic Kennedy's reading of the views of the 13th-century theologian St Thomas Aquinas, was an unnatural vice and worse than intercourse with one's own mother. But it is not just the sex that upsets the veteran broadcaster. There is the absurdity of those medieval cathedrals that claimed to have as relics a branch of Moses' burning bush, 204 bits of the babies mas-sacred by Herod, or Christ's milk

teeth and foreskin. And it is not just the superstition. There is 2,000 years of violence perpetrated in the name of Christianity, from the holy wars of the Crusades and institutionalised murder of the Inquisitions to the persecution of hapless



### WEDNESDAY BOOK

ALL IN THE MIND: A FAREWELL TO GOD BY LUDOVIC KENNEDY, HODDER & STOUGHTON, £18.99

doff his hat at a passing religious procession. In punishment, he had his hands cut off and his tongue torn out and was then burned alive.

Kennedy has gathered an impres-sive catalogue of the madness and badness perpatrated in the name of Christianity over the centuries. He suggests that it not only undermines that faith, but proves that God does not individuals - such as the 18th-century exist. There is a leap in logic here, of

French aristocrat who declined to course; for though the awful inventory may discredit the use to which religion has been put, it does not necessarily undermine faith itself.

> wants to make. For his book is not an open-minded exploration of the role of 2,000 years of European faith; rather it is a vituperative polemic against the very business of belief. Hence he has just five lines on the cathedrals of Cologne, Chartres and Canterbury, the paintings of Titian and Tintoretto, the music of Bach, Handel, Beethoven and Verdi and the centuries of poetry and literature that Christianity prompted. He has virtually nothing on its care of the poor and marginalised.

on the inconsistencies of the Gospels, the intransigence of dogma and what be repeatedly refers to as Christianity's "killing fields". All of this is racily written and a romp of a read, though some of its

Against that he has almost 300 pages

intemperate asides impart a tone of intolerance that risks alienating all but avowed atheists. However, the thinking that draws it all together is sloppy. For a seasoned reporter, he draws unjustifiably wide inferences from ad hominem argumeots. He assumes causal relationships between sequential events. He sets up false polarities between science and religion, inertia and change.

modern English atheism is interesting but displays a constant lack of will be concede that his own sense of



Father Brian McGrath guards the relics of St Valentine, boused in a new display in Blessed John Duns Scotus church, Glasgow

proportion dwelling as long on the torn the transcendent in nature or art frock-coat of Britain's first atheist rests on assertions of belief rather than MP, Charles Bradlaugh, as he does on some of Christianity's truly shameful murderous righteousness.

Kennedy is right; most Christians today would agree about the failures of the past, though he does repeatedly fall into the fallacy of judging the past by the standards of the present rather than from an understanding of those times. He does not understand, for example, that "sin" meant something very different in first-century Palestine than it did in medieval Christendom or in later ceoturies.

But a greater fault than this ahistoricity is the stultifying literalism that underlies his view of the Bible. He describes the Gospels as docu-drama and seems to assume that, if they are not historically accurate, then they are devoid of truth of other kinds. This is surprising, for he writes a rather moving coocluding chapter on his own personal spirituality - sparked by hearing bagpipes across a Scottish hill-side. It is full of references to the poetic, the subconscious and the elliptical. Yet he will admit no sense of myth or metaphor in the Bible. Nor

in the scientific rationalism be elsewhere lauds. This failure of imagmation leads him to paint a monochrome Aunt Sally of Christianity.

When it comes to modern theology, which takes account of the psychology of Freud or the philosophy of the logical positivists. Kennedy's literalism prevents him from engaging. Tillich's sense of God as "the depth and ground of all being", Bultmann's attempts to demythologise the Bible or Bonhoeffer's notion of "Christianity without religion" are all pronounced "confusing" or "baffling", though that does not stop him from plucking lines from them to support his thesis.

The book dismisses in a single sentence the idea that buman beings are hard-wired for religion as they are for language and music. Nor has it anything interesting to say on how the decline in established religions is being met by the blossoming of vague new age spiritualities. The book, Kennedy says in his introduction, will either be considered radical or old hat. Sadly there can be little doubt as to what the verdict must be.

### More women are victims of INTESTACY than DIVORCE

A woman, on average, lives longer than a man. So she is more likely to have to face the difficulties of intestacy - the legal term for being left in a mess because her husband didn't make a

Many men assume that, on their death, all they own will automatically go to their wives. This isn't so. When a man dies intestate, not just his wife but brothers, sisters and even cousins may have a claim on what he owned.

His widow may have to sell the house to pay off his relations. None of this need happen if he makes a Will. Yet seven out of ten people fail to take this simple step.

Now, as a service to the public, WWF UK (World Wide Fund

For Nature) has produced its own plain language guide to making a Will. It explains:

• why everyone needs to make a Will

• how to go about it and how to minimise tax

liability on what you leave behind. Don'y leave it to chance. Give

yourself the peace of mind of knowing your loved ones are properly provided for.

Send or phone for our FREE guide to making a Will, today.

Please send me my FREE copy of your guide to Wills and Will-making. (Allow 28 days for delivery)

Send in Sally Burrower

Cmidford (01483) 426445

Legace Officer. WHT UK Freepost, Panda House, Codolming, Surres, GUT IBR No Samp is needed. Registered Charge Number 201707 Under the terms of the Data Propersion Set, you have the right to advance on it also been if you do not make the recture further mankaged two NSF or from registrations with them the transport

the rumour you sent out comes back to you. Tim Liardet's new collection, 'Competing with the Piano Tuner', is published at £7.95 by Seren, 2 Wyndham Street, Bridgend CF31 1EF

WEDNESDAY POEM

CONVERSATIONS WITH LOCAL TAXI DRIVERS

They ferry us - with knowledge of the town -

but then they expect to be listened to.

One will forever run the neighbourhood down.

one praise his giant hly, worthy of Kew.

One will rehearse his therapy, and one so deaf

shout as if it's you who wears the bearing aid.

Even the shyest of them will, once under way,

recount his skirmish with a Nordic chef.

It is like listening to a radio play.

When all you wanted was a quiet ride

home, you get extracts of cinema-vérité.

Just when every ghost in the town has been laid

and it comes to what all lonely housewives do,

He makes clumsy assumptions, for instance that doubts in matters of morality and of metaphysics are the same thing. His account of the rise of

PAUL VALLELY

# Paul Mellon

A PHILANTHROPIST, art collector. and sportsman, Paul Mellon made handsome gifts to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge and to the Tate Gallery, but he was perhaps especially known in Britain as the owner and breeder of the classic racehorse Mill Reef.

Mellon's life appeared to have been endowed with rare hlessings. Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1907, he was the only son of one of America's richest magnates, Andrew Mellon, who had amassed a great fortune in banking and who in later life entered politics to become Secretary of the Treasury for a term that spanned three presidencies, those of Harding, Coolidge and Hoover, and who was subsequently appointed American Ambassador to the Court of St James. Paul Mellon's mother, Nora McMullen, was a brewer's daughter

from England. Yet Mellon's childhood was far from happy, a fact that only became clear when he published his memoirs, Reflections in a Silver Spoon (1992), in his 86th year. The psychological impact on him as a small boy of his parents' wretched marriage and the tempestuous divorce that terminated it overshadowed his life well into middle age. This setback probably accounted for his extreme shyness as a young man but the shyness was skilfully hidden by exemplary good manners, great charm and a finely tuned, rather playful sense of humour. He was in fact the perfect gentleman, honourable. loval, considerate of others, conscientious in his stewardships and invariably taking great pains to be fair.

He completed his education at Choate School in Connecticut and Yale University with two years as an undergraduate at Clare College, Cambridge, where he became a lifelong devotee of fox-hunting. Aware of his father's unexpressed wish that he should make a career in the Mellon Bank in Pittsburgh, but realising that he had no aptitude or enthusiasm for it, he resolved to follow his own leanings towards scholarship, the arts, country life and sport, and over a period of time he developed these interests into the spectacular accomplishments for which he became known.

He effectively disbursed a substantial portion of the fortune his father had amassed, funnelling over \$600m, through personal philan-thropy and through the vehicle of his foundations, into the fields of higher education, the arts, conservation and preservation, psychiatry, religion and science. He said of himself that he became rather like a bird dog, a pointer perhaps, guiding others toward various artistic, charitable and financial efforts that I thought need-

ed undertaking or improvement". After his father's death in 1937, Mellon took a keen and lasting in-

in Washington, acting at various times over a period of 47 years as Trustee, Vice-President, President and Chairman. Andrew Mellon had funded the original building (now known as the West Building) of the National Gallery of Art and presented it to the nation together with his renowned collection of Old Master paintings. It was opened to the public four years after his death in 1941. Thirty-seven years later, in 1978, Paul Mellon turned over the new East Building, designed by LM. Pei, to President Jimmy Carter "to be dedicated forever to the use and enjoyment of the people of the United States".

He said he became rather like a bird dog, a pointer perhaps, guiding others towards efforts I thought needed undertaking or improvement'.

This building had again been almost entirely funded with Mellon money, Paul's late sister Ailsa's foundation also playing a major part. Added to these benefactions he gave the gallery a large number of French Impressionist paintings collected over the years by him and by his wife Bunny,

Apart from his association with the National Gallery, Mellon started in the early Sixties to form a remarkable collection of British art. He had always been a dedicated Anglophile and his collection provided a comprehensive survey of British paintings, drawings, prints and books centred on the period from Robert Walpole's ministries up until the accession of Queen Victoria. The architect Louis Kahn was en-

gaged to design a gallery to be called the Yale Center for British Art, and in 1977 Mellon presented it, together with his collection, to Yale University. Over and above this he endowed the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art in London, to pursue research and scholarship under the umbrella of the Yale institution. After the departure of all the material from his own private gailery, the Brick House, on his 4,500-acre farm in Virginia, he amused himself by building up a collection of sporting art which was destined for Yale and for his since the Second World War. And

terest in the National Gallery of Art local museum, the Virginia Museum

of Fine Arts. Mellon's interest in psychiatry stemmed from a period he spent in Switzerland shortly before America entered the Second World War, when he and his first wife, Mary, worked under the guidance of Carl Jung Later, after the war, and shortly before her death in 1946, he and Mary started the Bollingen Foundation which, among many other publications, brought out a set of volumes of the complete works of Jung in English translation.

Mellon had been haptised in St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle and throughout his life made countless visits to see his friends in Britain, to view the art galleries and to attend the races. A muchrespected figure in racing circles, he supported the work of the Royal Veterinary College and kept horses in training with Ian Balding and with Balding's predecessors, Ivor Anthony and Peter Hastings-Bass, for over 50 years. He must have been one of a dwindling number of oldfashioned sportsman owners.

In the corner of the study of his house in New York he had framed a quotation from Thomas a Kempis which read "Everywhere I have sought rest and found it not, except sitting in a corner with a little book." This quotation might equally have applied to Mellon, who was a somewhat solitary figure and an avid reader. With a great number of acquaintances, his circle of close friends always remained small and that circle was progressively reduced as his old friends predeceased him.

He was a good companion. Apart from enjoying his interesting con-versation and his sense of fun, one always had a feeling of his soundness and loyalty. His tastes were simple and he was equally at home at a distinguished gathering, relaxing over a drink in an English pub or eating frankfurters at a hot-dog stand outside a racecourse. In 1948 he married Rachel "Bunny" Lloyd and over a very long period her creative and imaginative presence, helping to maintain five houses and over 250 employees, gave him a feeling of security which he had never known in his early years.

JOHN BASKETT

Paul Mellon's unstinting passion for horses can be gleaned from his first, unsuccessful effort at his autobiography, writes Julian Muscat. Having scribbled furiously for the better part of 1980, he abandoned the work on realising that some 100 pages had been devoted exclusivehis equine allies of vestervear

veritable library of books has been written on his outstanding homebred Mill Reef, possibly the finest horse to grace Britain's racecourses



Mellon, right, a dedicated Anglophile, with a bronze of his racehorse Mill Reef by John Skeaping, centre, in 1973 Hulton Getty

when, as a four-year-old in 1972, Mill Reef shattered a limb on the gallops, Mellon accepted an offer which allowed the horse to assume stallion duties at the National Stud in Newmarket rather than be sold more lucratively abroad.

This gesture of henevolence would have been familiar to those in the art world, and the fact that Mill Reef was nevertheless syndicated for a record sum serves to underline the esteem in which the colt was held. The little bay with the white star on his forehead was to prove immensely influential in his new role; the mere mention of Mill Reef still brings a shine to the eyes of his most ardent admirer, the racing commentator John Oaksey.

Horse racing and breeding gave Mellon excitement in a way art never did, so much so that he became irritable if distracted on the racecourse when be had a runner. Of his seven properties the one he called home was Rokeby Farm in Virginia, his American racing stable and nursery to a plethora of homebred champions.

So smitten was h January 1936, the day King George V died and hunting was temporarily suspended. He also rode in point-topoints, on one occasion unknowingly
risking his life aboard Knight of the
near Mellon's Antiguan summer son William, now Lord Huntingdon

Whitney, had been retired from racing by Whitney's then husband, Jock, after veterinary diagnosis revealed Knight of the Galtees to have a shockingly bad heart.

Mellon's hunting days were brought to an abrupt end in 1975 when he was almost fatally kicked in the chest at Bath racecourse; he owed his survival to what he described as a "well-filled wallet". A season's hunting with the Middleton, as guest of his friend Lord Halifax, earned him the sobriquet "Water Mellon", so regularly was he unseated into the deep, water-filled ditches of the Yorkshire landscape.

Mellon started buying breeding stock in 1946. Three years later he made what was to prove his most momentous purchase, giving 12,000 ineas for the unraced two-year-old filly Red Ray. She produced only three live foals, the only filly being Virginia Water, herself unraced due to ankle problems. Virginia Water, in turn, bred Milan Mill, a fragile filly who was unsuccessful in a bandful of starts. Yet from this decidedly unsound bloodline was foaled on 23 No doubt he had much to say; a hounds that he fied to Ireland on 20 ruary 1968, a bay colt-by Never Bend in 1964. Balding later married from Milan Mili - that was to capture Hastings-Bass's daughter Emma. the hearts of British racegoers with who managed Mellon's Britishhis talent, daring and durability.

Coventry, Gimcrack, Imperial and Dewhurst Stakes in a dazzling twoyear-old campaign. After a defeat by his deadly rival Brigadier Gerard in the Two Thousand Guineas, Mill Reef was raced over distances of more than one mile and swept all before him, gaining runaway victories in the Derby, Eclipse Stakes, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes and the Prix de l'Arc de

Mill Reef picked up the winning thread as a four-year-old until he fractured the cannon-bone in his near-foreleg when preparing for a confrontation with Brigadier Gerard. A life-saving operation rescued him for stud duties, during which he sired two Derby winners in Shirley Heights and Reference Point, an Irish Derby hero in Shirley Heights, a French Derby winner in Acamas and an Italian Derby winner in Mellon's home-bred Glint of Gold. His progeny had conquered the Derbys of Europe.

Triomphe in 1971.

Mill Reef was trained by Ian Balding, who took over the Mellon from Peter Hastings-Bass based broodmares, while Mellon

Galtees. The horse, bought from Liz house, Mill Reef annexed the and until recently the Queen's principal trainer.

Mellon's Rokeby Farm enjoyed sweeping success in America. His first trainer Elliot Birch handled Mel-Ion's first Classic winner Quadrangie, hero of the 1964 Belmont Stakes, and guided Arts and Letters to Horse of the Year honours in 1969. Fort Marcy repeated the feat for the Birch/ Mellon team the following year Mackenzie "Mack" Miller took over from Birch in 1976 and trained many Rokehy colour-bearers to championship honours.

For all these glittering Turf prizes, Mellon stated that, although he would be forgotten in 50 years' time, his name will always be printed in the Stud Book as the breeder of Mill Reef. Paul Mellon's name will be remembered in thoroughbred circles for a lot more besides.

Paul Mellon, art collector, philanthropist, racehorse breeder: born Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania II June 1907; Trustee, National Gollery of Art, Washington DC 1945-85, President 1963-79, Chairman of Trustees 1979-85. Honorary Trustee 1985-99 Trustee, Andrew Mellon Foundation 1969-99; Hon KBE 1974; married 1935 Mary Conover (died 1946; one son, one daughter), 1948 Bunny Lloyd (née Lambert); died Upper-ville, Virginia 2 February 1999.

### **Huntz Hall**

HUNTZ HALL gave some imprescharacter actor (notably in the war film A Walk in the Sun) hut he will always be remembered for his role as part of the gang known through the years as the Dead End Kids, the East Side Kids and ultimately the

Bowery Boys. Hall was the rubber-faced, eager oaf, forever the butt of the others' humour and the recipient of countless whacks over the head from the group's leader (Leo Gorcey). Told "The only thing that could improve your looks is plastic surgery", he de-lightedly replies. "Thank you for the compliment." With his wide eyes and hunched demeanour, as if constantly cowering from the inevitable blows he created a memorable character and proved the most durable of the cast, appearing in 81 of the series films (more than any other actor) including the final one in 1958. The Dead End Kids started life in

Sidney Kingsley's play Dead End, produced on Broadway in 1935 and filmed two years later by William Wyler. The six juveniles from the play - Hall, Gorcey, Billy Halop, Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell and Bernard Punsly - were all recruited for the Hollywood version, recreating their roles as youngsters whose attitudes are conditioned by their povertystricken environment, making them easy prey to the influence of a gangster (Humphrey Bogart).

Hall was already a veteran in show business, having made his Broadway debut at the age of three months in the play Thunder on the Left. The 14th of 16 children of an Irish immigrant engineer, he was born Henry Richard Hall in New York City in 1919, but was rechristened "Huntz" by a brother who said his large nose made him look German. After graduating from a Catholic grammar school he attended the Professional Childreo's School.

While studying, he sang as a boy soprano with the Madison Square Quintette, appeared in an experimental television transmission in 1932, and acted in several radio shows. He was still attending the school when he auditioned for Dead End and was given the part of Dippy because he could imitate a machine gun. "That's how I got in Dead End," he said later, "after all the training,

the tap dancing and the singing."
The Dead End Kids featured in six subsequent dramas for Warner Brothers, notably the Michael Curtiz classic Angels With Dirty Faces (1938), in which they again idolise a gangster (James Cagney), and Busby Berkeley's They Made Me A Criminal (1939). Hall then appeared in several Universal films which featured both the Dead End Kids and the Little Tough Guys. Primarily comedies, these were undistin-

Hall reads a magazine in a darkened bedroom and is asked how he can read in the dark. I went to night school,' he replies

uished, but the actor later stated that be benefited from watching the studio's main comic stars in action, particularly Shemp Howard and

In 1940 Hall married for the first time, eloping with the dancer Elsie May Anderson. They were divorced four years later after a stormy marriage during which Hall developed a reputation as a woman-chaser. Evelyn Ankers, who played the female lead in Hit the Road (1941) stated, "On one occasion after a day's shooting I thought I was the last one to leave but on my way out I bumped his arms around me and tried to force me to kiss him. I responded as my daddy taught me to - I let him have it with my knee right between his legs."

Bowery Blitzkreig (1941), made by the minor studio Monogram, was the first film in which Hall played as one of the East Side Kids. but it was the next, Spooks Run Wild (1941), that firmly established the team as purveyors of good-natured corn and Hall's character Glimpy as the principal comic, blissfully unaware of his own stupidity. (When Hall reads a magazine in a darkened bedroom he is asked how he can read in the dark and replies, "I went to night school.")

Hall played one of his rare roles without the gang in Private Bucka-700 (1942), as a corporal who teaches Harry James to play the trumpet, but his most acclaimed performance was as Private Garroway, one of a battalion on a suicidal mission in Italy in Lewis Milestone's A Walk in the Sun (1946), which won him the Blue Ribbon Award from the New York Theatre Critics Circle, Hall himself acreed in the Army briefly before being honourably discharged

with bad eyesight. Though several of the films star-ring the East Side Kids were en-tertaining, notably Let's Get Tough (1942, in which the boys expose a wartime secret society plotting gainst the US), Clancy Street Boys (1943), Block Busters (1944) and Bowery Champs (1944), it was with the Bowery Boys series, launched by Monogram in 1946, that the am found their biggest success. with greater uniformity of style and

characterisation. Gorcey, now given star billing, was Slip, given to wild malapropisms and ideas above his station, and Hall was Sach, frantically gyrating his lips and often taken advantage of by Slip. The prime setting was the drug-store run by Louie (played by Gorcey's father Bernard) where the boys sip sodas they cannot pay for An indication of the films' profitability was Mono-



Hall, arms folded, and the Dead End Kids in Dead End, 1937

(the previous films had been shot in six or seven days). Gorcey, Hall, Jor-dan and Dell remained of the original team, with Billy Benedict now a regular member.

"We all got along fabulously," said Hall. "We went our own ways when we were not working professionally. We tried to avoid the prob-lems of other comedy teams like Abbott and Costello or Martin and Lewis. If we were always together, it could have caused problems." Of Gorcey, he stated, "We dug one another." Hall's character was central to many of the plots - in Mr Hex into Huntz Hall (acne and all). He put gram's decision to give them a (1946), Sach acquires superhuman his arms around me and tried to shooting schedule of two weeks strength after being put in a trance

by a magician, and in Hold That Boby! (1949) he registers as a patient at a sanatorium so that be and Slip can investigate suspicious doings. (Signing the registration form, Sach carefully writes an "X", prompting Slip to tell him, "Don't sign your real

me." Sach erases it, and replaces

it with an "O".) In Master Minds (1949), Sach's brain is electronically transplanted into an ape man, and in Blues Busters (1950) be becomes a popular crooner after a tonsillectomy gives him a seductive singing voice. Hall's private life was not without incident - in 1948 he was arrested for possession of marijuana, though

**Hulton Getty** later exonerated by a hung jury, in 1954 he was charged with disturb-ing the peace after fighting an apart-

mg the peace after lighting an apartment manager who had tried to
quieten a noisy party, and in 1959 be
was charged with drunk driving.
By the time of the Bowery Boys
film Clipped Wings (1953), Gorcey
and Hall were getting virtually all the
screen time, with the other "boys" litthe more than extras, and Gabriel
Dell, the last remaining original, he Dell, the last remaining original, left the series, but their popularity continued. "There is a peculiar chemistry that keeps a series going for years, said the producer Ben Schwalb. "Leo and Huntz have an instinctive feeling about dialogue and scenes.

They live their parts before the carnera and they know just what will play for a laugh and what will not."

After Bernard Gorcey died, Leo made one more film in the series. Crashing Las Vegas (1956), then retired and was replaced by Stanley Clements, but the chemistry was not the same and, though he now received star billing and did seven more pictures. Hall was not happy.

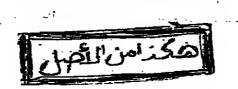
In the Money (1958) was the last Bowery Boys film, but Hall continued to perform. He and Gabriel Dell formed a night-club act, "Hall and Dell", which led their respective wives (Hall had married a second time in 1948) to sue for divorce. claiming the couple thought more of their night-club act than they did of their wives. Hall played character roles in Gentle Giant (1967), Herbie Rides Again (1974) and Ken Russell's Valentino (1977), for which he won praise with his portrayal of Jesse Lasky, and he worked frequently in television.

On stage, he toured in produc-tions of The Odd Couple and The Sunshine Boys, finally retiring in 1994. Proud of his son Gary, who is a Catholic priest, Hall was active in lay Catholic affairs, and in 1973 participated in Princess Grace's Council for Drug Abuse. Divorced three times and widowed once, the actor lived comfortably in Los Angeles. wealthy from offshore oil investments and a 10 per cent percentage of the Bowery Boys films. (The only one of the original six Dead End Kids surviving is Punsly, a retired doctor. with Billy Benedict the only survivor

of subsequent gang members.) Asked in 1990 why the films had such universal appeal, Huntz Hall replied, "They're Americana. They were also pretty entertaining. After seeing our pictures, you got rid of your problems. In today's movies, the problems are on the screen."

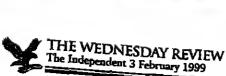
TOM VALLANCE

Henry Richard Hall (Huntz Hall), actor: born New York 15 August 1919; married four times (one son): died Los Angeles 30 January 1999.



BIRTH

MARRIA



MARY BARKER was a hand-weaver, artist, teacher and enthusiastic leading figure in the Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers for nearly half a century. She was a deft, birdlike presence in textile circles, and would walk miles rather than take a bus or taxi to attend specialist functions and exhibitions.

She was born in oorth Somerset in 1907, the eldest of the five children of Professor B.T.P. Barker of Bristol University (Professor of Agriculture and Horticulture), also the Director of the

Fruit and Cider Research Station at Long Ashton. She studied for the Diploma in Textile Industries and Design at

both Leeds University and Leeds School of Art; the two-stream course was created especially for her and she was the first women to study textile industries at Leeds, a lone female among

Although the course was devoted

chiefly to industrial practice, Barker also

took a craft specialism in silk weaving

a line of enquiry she followed through-

out her life. In 1930 she joined the Lon-

don contract design studio of the carpet

direction of B.C. Baltazanos. Among the

carpets they created were fine Wiltons

for the Royal Opera House at Covent

Garden. Designs had to be painstakingly

painted out in repeat and a precise, de-

veloped colour sense was required. At

this time Barker threw herself into

London life and was a keen follower of

In the war years Barker served as a

paymaster in the WRNS. She enjoyed

the responsibility and even the compli-

cated calculations, adapting easily from

her "other" life in a design studio. Her

position as a Wren officer, she claimed

in her autobiography (Tangled Threads,

1998), gave her the courage to challenge

her teachers when she re-entered art

school on a "demob" grant after the war

loma at Hornsey School of Art in 1947,

she found the weaving being taught

dull and the grant inadequate; howev-

er, she was soon teaching evening

classes there herself, the income

from which helped her to survive. She

soon became a member of the regular

art-time staff.

Studying for an Art Teacher's Dip-

ballet, opera, music and the theatre.

firm John Crossley and Sons under the

some 75 men.



Secondar centre, in 1972

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March 1 1 National Gallery: Kathleen WITH IN THE Adler, "Ingres (i), Portraits and the real by Ingres: images of an Military at 1 ... epoch", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Patricia Baker, of motion . "Dragon Robes in 19thcentury China", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Peter Doig Sergial of talks about his work, 1pm porti d

### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

ter of Francis, loving mother of Annemary, Sarah, Felix, Trefiry and Luan, also devoted grandmother of 13. Requiem mass on Wednesday 10 February at 11am in St Patrick's Church, Green Bank, Wapping, followed by cremation at East London Crematorium. Family flowers only, but any donations to British Heart Foundation, 14 Fitzhardinge Street, London W1. Enquiries to A. and C. Tadman, 116 Jubilee Street, London Ei SEB, 0171-730 4097.

BIRTES, MARRIAGES & DEATHS are charged at \$4.50 a line (VAT extra).

(telephone 0171-887 8922 for tickets). Royal Society of Arts. London WC2: Paddy Ashdown, "Proportional Representation and its Consequences for British Politics", spm (telephone 0171-930 9286 for tickets). British Museum: John Cherry, "The Savernake

**MARRIAGES** 

Mr J. Pelham Burn and Miss K. Bailey The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Pelham Burn, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, and Kara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Graeme Bailey, of Ourimbah, New South Wales.

Miss Maev Alexander, Allan, former Headmaster,

The Earl of Antrim, former Keeper of Conservation, Tate Gallery, 64; Air Chief Marshal Sir John Gingell, former Gentleman Usher of the Henderson, Principal, Trini-

### ANNIVERSARIES Births: Horace Greeley.

Gertrude Stein, writer and critic, 1874; Priaulx Rainier, composer, 1903. Deaths: John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, 1399; John Lane, publisher, 1925; Boris Karloff (William Henry Pratt), actor, 1969; John Cassavetes, actor, director and screenwriter, 1989. On this day: Bartholomew Diaz landed at Mossal Bay, Cape of Good Hope, 1488; the Soviet spacecraft Luna 9 reached the Moon and sent back television pictures, 1966. Today is the Feast Day of St Anskar, St Blaise, St Ia the Virgin, St Laurence of Canterbury, St. Laurence of Spoleto, Saint

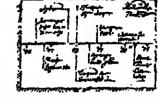
HORNERS' COMPANY

The Election Day Court of the Worshipful Company of Horners was held vesterday. followed by a service in St. James Garlickhythe, London EC4. A luncheon was held later at Painters' Hall, London EC2. The following were elected and installed as officers for the ensuing year: MASTER: Dr Leonard P Smith; UPPER WARDEN: Mr Raymond R. Knowland; RENTER WARDEN: Mr Miles St C. Beird.

> ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Princess Royal, Member of the International Olympic Committee, attends a meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Household Cavalry



HISTORICAL NOTES

### Catherine the Great's spectacular legacy

CATHERINE THE Great of Russia was a German princess who seized the throne from her incompetent husband. Peter III, in 1762 and condoned his subsequent assassination by friends of her lover Count Grigori Orlov. She was also a scholar, a hrilliant stateswoman and the most voracious art collector the world has ever known - as the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg bears witness to this day.

The foundation of the Hermitage is conventionally dated to 1764 when Catherine made her first hulk purchase of 225 paintings, including three Rembrandts, a Franz Hals and other notable Dutch works. Her influence is still detectable in virtually every gallery and department - she is the presiding spirit of Russia's greatest museum.

In a letter she wrote to Friedrich Melchior Grimm, a Parisian gossip and journalist, in 1790, six years before her death, Catherine was able to congratulate herself on having a collection that outclassed those of all other monarchs of her day. "Besides the paintings and the Raphael Loggia," she wrote, referring to her 4,000 Old Masters and her copies of frescoes Raphael painted for the Vatican Palace in Rome. my museum in the Hermitage contains 38,000 books; there are four rooms filled with books and prints, 10,000 engraved gems, roughly 10,000 drawings and a natural history collection that fills two large galleries.

She forgot to mention her 16,000 coins and medals. For Catherine, the dinner service that she ordered from Wedgwood, decorated with 1,222 different views of British architectural monuments, was for use and not part of her art collection. In the same way she ordered services from Sèvres, Meissen and St Petersburg, silver from the greatest silversmiths of Paris, and magnif-

icent furniture from David Roentgen in Germany -Marie Antoinette's favourite cabinetmaker. All of these can also still be admired in the Hermitage galleries. The museum takes its name from an extension that Catherine huilt on to her

Winter Palace in central St Petersburg - a pavilion intended for private parties which she called her "Hermitage". As her art collection grew she had to huild a second extension, the "Old Hermitage", and, finally, she added a theatre - the "Hermitage Theatre" - to this line of buildings which now stretches for almost a quarter of a mile down the banks of the River Neva. After the 1917 Revolution, the whole complex, including the Winter Palace itself, was allocated to the museum. Until the recent extension of the Louvre, the Hermitage was the

largest museum in the world. Catherine was not, of course, solely responsible for this magnificent institution. Peter the Great himself, who

founded St Petersburg on the estuary of the River Neva in 1703, bought the museum's first Rembrandt. The costume department still owns 200 of Peter's clothes, including some of his underwear.

Catherine's son Paul couldn't stand the place, but her grandsons greatly embellished it. Alexander I, who fought against Napoleon, bought the cream of Empress Josephine's art collection which he carried back to the Hermitage. His hrother Nicholas I encouraged the excavations in southern Russia which yielded the museum's incomparable Scythian and Greek gold artefacts. He also added the "New Hermitage" on to the back of the palace, a custom-built museum which he filled with the finest of the imperial collection and

opened to the public in 1852. Since the Revolution an Oriental department, an archaeological department and a Russian department have been added to the museum. There are now three million items in the collection, compared to one million in 1917 of which only 5 per cent are currently on show. A vast expansion into nearby imperial buildings, used by the military since 1917, is now in the pipeline, ensuring that the Hermitage's future, like its history, will be spectacular.

Geraldine Norman is author of The Hermitage: the biography of a great museum (Pimlico, 4 February, £12.50)

# Hammy Howell

Mary Barker

ditties of their own and scored a series

of eight Top Twenty hits in the UK. Hammy Howell joined Darts in late 1976 after the band, who had already done a cappella sessions on Charlie Gillett's seminal BBC Radio London Honky Tonk show, announced they were looking for a piano player Rita Ray, ooe of the group's four lead vocalists, recalls, "You don't come across a lefthand talent like that very often. Hammy's thunderous rhythm made

him a natural for us."

Howell was born in London in 1954 and developed a passion for the piano from an early age. By the mid-Seventies, he was backing Johnny Mars, a hlues harmonica player who had relocated from the United States to Britain. Mars and his Oakland Boogie Band were regular visitors to Germany where they acquired a cult following among

blues aficionados. Darts had evolved from the break-up of Rocky Sharpe and tha Razors, a rock 'n' roll revue-style act who had and "It's Raining" (by the formidable group's last Top Twenty hit, a cover of

BIRTHS

BOWMAN: A daughter, Isobel Frances, to Rosemary (née Hal-ley) and Paul, of Tattenhall, Cheshire, on 12 January.

**DEATHS** 

BOYARS: Marion, publisher, beloved wife of Arthur, mother of Susan and Catheryn and grand-mother of Daniel, Emma, Ella and Tessa, peacefully at home on 1 February, Funeral at Mortiake Crematorium on Thursday

4 February at 4.30pm. No flow-ers, but contributions to Marie Curie Cancer Care.

THOMPSON: née Daley, Eliza-beth Rhoda (Betty), suddenly on 31 January. Beloved wife of the late Morice William, caring sis-

**LECTURES** 

scored a couple of hits with the Replays. Keen to really delve into the roots of rhythm 'n' blues", the Razors' bass-singer Den Hegarty, its vocalists Griff Fender and Rita Ray, and saxophonist Horatio Hornblower, added Bob Fish, a veteran of the pub scene, and, alongside Hammy Howell, recruited the guitarist George Currie, the bassist lain

teach at Brighton School of Art, taking

over a part-time job from the elderly

Ethel Mairet, one of the Ditchling group

of artists and craftspeople. Mairet's leg-

endary "Gospels" workshop was the

seedbed for many advanced textile tal-

ents, amongst whom were Marianne

Barker, who was still living in London,

visited often at weekends from 1950 to

1952, staying in the house-cum-studio

and "working her passage"; she had an

open brief to weave in her own style,

using Mairet's collection of huxurious

silk and wool yarns combined with in-

dustrially spun cotton. Elegant, gauze-

weave stoles and scarves from the

late phase of Gospels (1950-52) are

During the 1950s Mary Barker ex-

hibited with the Crafts Centre in Lon-

attributed to her.

At the age of 43 she began also to don, the Arts and Crafts Exhibition

Straub and Peter Collingwood.

"Thump" Thompson and the drummer John Dummer, to become Darts. In 1977, after considering an offer from Stiff Records, Darts signed to the Magnet label. Under the guidance of the producers Richard Hartley and Tommy Boyce, the group blended the Rays' "Daddy Cool" and Little Richard's infectious "The Girl Can't Help It" into a catchy medley which reached No 6 in

the British charts in December that year On a roll, Darts returned to their doowop record collections, updating "Come Back My Love" (popularised by the Wrens and the Cardinals), "Boy from New York City" (the Ad-Libs 1965 hit)

appearances and the popularity of their debut album Dorts, the follow-up Everyone Plays Darts and the compilation Amazing Darts, marketed by K-Tel. helped the band become Britain's

Barker at her floor loom, at which she wove wall-hangings and clothes such as the tabard she is wearing

Society (now the Society of Designer-

Craftsmen) and the Association of

Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers.

In 1959 she moved permanently to

Brighton and her abstract hangings in

silk and wool began to appear in shows

of national significance, including "Weaving for Walls", at the Victoria and

Down in Brighton the showed with

the Phoenix Group from the late 1950s

to 1982. Her output included embroi-

deries, lithographs and paintings as well

as hand-woven wall-hangings and one-

off garments. Examples of her work ac-

companied her on lecture tours which,

following retirement from teaching in

1970, took her to Australia, New Zealand,

to the late 1970s, she steered the pro-

duction of the Quarterly Journal of the

Throughout the 1950s, 1960s and up

the United States and Canada.

Albert Museum in 1965.

biggest-selling act of 1978. We were a one-off. Even the punks loved us," reflects Ray. "There was a really strange affinity between what we were doing and what they liked. Johnny Rotten used to come to our gigs. Later Madness and the Specials showed up too."

However, the band's punishing schedule was beginning to take its toll and, apart from the fine "Get It", their self-penned efforts like "Don't Let It Fade Away" didn't quite match the performance of previous singles.

Howell quit in order to study classical music for a while. "Up to a couple of years ago, he was still taking piano lessons. Hammy was really dedicated," Ray remembers. He returned to the fold for a short spell in 1980, after the

TWENTY YEARS ago, Darts dusted caused a sensation on London's pub-off a host of doo-wop and Fifties rock scene. Rocky Junior, the Razors' for three consecutive No 2s in 1978. Darts struggled on with releases on Sunrhythm 'n' blues classics, penned a few frootman, left the band and eventually Chaotic yet memorable Top of the Pops burst and their own Choice Cuts label before splitting up three years later.

Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers,

often known as the "Weavers' Journal".

She was twice Secretary and Chairman

of its editorial committee over a period

of 26 years while contributing news,

reviews and articles to improve hand-

weaving knowledge. The guild's exhi-

hitions, both nationally and in her own

East Sussex branch, included her work

right up to 1998; she was also its

were recognised in 1992 when she was

appointed MBE. She received this

award accompanied by her oephew

Mary Barker, weaver: born Long Ash-

ton, Somerset 10 February 1907; MBE

1992; died Brighton, East Sussex 20

MARGOT COATTS

Mary Barker's services to her craft

President throughout the 1990s.

Christopher Round.

Griff Fender, Ritz Ray, Thump Thomp-son and Horatio Hornblower joined the cast of Yakety Yak, a rock 'n' roll musical which made a successful move to the West End in 1983. Several ex-Darts

members became band managers. The Eighties and Nineties were not kind to Howell who, says Rita Ray,

had severe mental problems. He never really got over his mother's illness and death. He put on far too much weight. When I was running the Mambo Inn and DJ ing in Brixton, he sometimes played in the chill-out lounge. He moved into sheltered accommodation in Torquay, where he started teaching piano and played in the house band. But he wouldn't listen to anybody and he had a heart attack. All he cared about was alwains that the reason force and food When playing the plano, fags and food. When Hammy was playing, he was happy. He was a wonderful boogle-woogle plano player.

PIERRE PERRONE

William "Hammy" Howell, piano and keyboard player: born London 24 October 1954; died Torquay, Devon 13 January 1999.

### Grant of wide injunction was not automatic

IN AN action for infringement of a patent, the court would not antomatically grant a wide injunction to restrain the defendant from infringing the patent in suit, hot might only grant more restricted relief, tied to the acts of infringement alleged

defendant The court, having earlier given judgment for the plaintiffs in their patent action against the defendants, declined to grant an injunction simply to restrain

and proved against the

infringement of their patent, but limited the injunction to the acts of infringement proved. It was argued for the plaintiffs that in the patent field the general form of injunction was the standard form and had

that the practice should not be overturned lightly. Richard Miller QC and Justin Turner (Clifford Chance) for the

been so for a very long time, and

plaintiffs; Anthony Watson QC and Thomas Hinchliffe (Bird & Bird) for the defendants. Mr Justice Laddie said that

whenever a court granted permanent injunctive relief at the end of a trial the purpose should be to give effect to its judgment on liability. The injunction granted should protect the plaintiff from a continuation of the infringement of his rights by the threatened activities of the defendant. The injunction must also, however, be fair to the defendant.

The purpose of the injunction was to restrain threateoed hreaches of the plaintiff's rights. In at least one patent case, Roleigh v Miller (1949) 66 RPC 23, an injunction had been refused where there had been new process or make a new

WEDNESDAY Law Report

3 FEBRUARY 1999

Coflexip SA and another v Stolt Comex Seaway MS Ltd and others

Chancery Division, Patents Court (Mr Justice Laddie) 29 January 1999

only one act of infringement and the judge thought that the defendant did not intend to infringe anybody's rights. A similar course had been adopted in trademark and passingoff cases.

In virtually all patent actions the alleged infringement would occupy just a small part of the monopoly secured by the patent and its claims. The effect of a broad injunction would be to restrain the defendant from doing things he had not threatened to do, might never have thought of doing, and might not

be capable of doing. The reluctance of the courts to grant imprecise injunctions had been commented on particularly in relation to breach of confidence actions and where mandatory injunctions were in issue. An injunction should be expressed in terms which made it clear what the defendant could and could not do.

The question of clarity was tied to the issue of enforcement. What would happen if the defendant wished to operate a

The issue of infringement would already have been decided against him in the original proceedings and thus be res judicata but that was not so in relation to the new product or process. If he went ahead and adopted the new process or product, he ran the risk of sequestration, fines, or, in the case of a personal defendant, imprisonment for contempt of court. It would be wrong to change

product which, though different

to the subject of the original pro-

ceedings was still arguably

within the scope of the patent?

a settled practice on a whim. In tha area of equitable relief, as in all others, judges were meant to apply uniform standards and uniform principles. The fact that broad injunctions had been granted in the past did not mean, however, that it was impermissible to look afresh at the basic principles. If such a reassessment suggested that the standard form of relief in the circumstances of a particular case was inappropriate, it would be wrong to grant it, no matter what its pedigree.

Whilst in cases of flagrant infringement of copyrights or trade marks, wide injunctions might be the only reasonable way of giving plaintiffs the protection they needed, to go from that to the general proposition that all infringers of intellectual property rights were to be treated as devious and that plaintiffs needed much wider orders in intellectual property cases to protect them against future ingenious, but yet unthought of, acts of infringement was unjustified.

KATE O'HANLON, Barrister

THE SCRAMBLE for Inter-WORDS net shares echoes the Gold Rush. As if to prove the point, an archaeologist has found the Lost Pioneers of 1849 in Death Valley. The relics include shoes. letters and coins worth \$500,000. In another such

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE land-office, adj.

as did those canny entrepreneurs who parcelled loop of time, Americans out land in the Rush, Fitrefer again to doing land- tingly, it now turns out that office business in a boom - the relics are a scam.

Meanwhile, in place of that weary cliche about gossiping over the watercooler, the stylish could revive the phrase about doing so over the picklebarrel. The OED lists the word. but with neither example nor hint of such a metaphor. As for www.dot.com, it exists bnt - significantly? - is

# **GAZETTE**

0171-790 4097.

Horn in Context", 11.30am.

FORTHCOMING

BIRTHDAYS

actress, 51; Mr George Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen, 63; Sir Anthony Alment, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 77; Miss Gillian Ayres, painter, 69; Mr Michael Dickinson. racehorse trainer, 49, Mr Val Doonican, singer, 70; Black Rod, 74; Mr Gavin

ty College of Music, 51; Baroness O'Cathain, former managing director, the Barbican Centre, 61; Brigadier the Hon Dame Mary Pihl, former Director of the WRAC, 83; Mr Frankie Vaughan, singer, 71.

newspaper editor, 1811; Margaret "of England" and St. Werburga.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

# You ask the questions

(Such as: Dr Margaret Cook, does it bother you that you have been cast as the woman scorned?)

r Margaret Cook. 54, a consultant haemotologist and mother of two, was married to Robin Cook. the foreign secretary, for 29 years. They divorced last March after revelations that he had been having an affair with his secretary, Gaynor Regan. Cook married Ms Regan last April Margaret has written an intimate account of the breakdown of her marriage, A Slight and Delicate Creature, published by Weidenfeld and Nicoison. She lives in Edinburgh and has two grown-up sons.

What was your aim in writing your memoirs?

James Issacs, Southwold I wrote my memoirs in response to sorrows past rather than with a conscious aim. But I had already found solace in writing, and especially writing about myself. I had an idea that I would gain insights and beable to analyse more clearly what went wrong. Though I realised the book would create embarrassment for my ex-husband, I did not feel I owed him courtesy or loyalty.

Can you think of one nice thing to say about Robin? Lucy Duffield, Maidstone

Yes, that I loved him in spite of everything until he repudiated me. He was clever, witty, good company, and he was also an excellent conversationalist ...

How did you hope that your former husband would react to some of your frank recollections in your book?

Barry Saunders, Liverpool I wrote the book for myself, not my Ian Barry, Cornwall former husband. I didn't really dwell on his reactions.

How did you feel on the day of your divorce, 13 March 1998? Angie Owen, Ullswater



What did you think of Tony Blair's affair broke? Do you think he was fair?

Tony was on holiday when news of the affair broke. His fairness is irrelevant. He showed very little understanding of how to write to someone in a state of grief and shock.

World, have on them?

Emily Garton, Preston Beards: no strong feelings! What do you think of Bill Clinton's

Beards: good, bad or ugly?

extra marital affairs? What advice would you have for Hillary?

What eners no you come you come your children?

Bill Clinton is cast in a similar role

has had on your children?

Bill Clinton is cast in a similar role

word you agree revenge is a

Peter Bradshaw, London Nigora rett Robin, Loeffeve There may be an 'Do you ever worry that yon've

dish best served in print?

My children have not taken sides underlying insecurity which probe past as the woman scorned?

My children have not taken sides underlying insecurity which probe past as the woman scorned?

Arme Metville, Swindon

reaction when news of Robin's and its revelation in the News Of The own thing; though I have much and devastated. sympathy for her.

> Despite his failings as a husband, would you admit that Robin Cook is a good foreign secretary? Don Guyn, Brighton He's an incredibly astute and able

politician, but not at his best in oneto-one engagements, perhaps a disadvantage as foreign secretary.

No. Revenge was not part of my me from writing it. I think the ques- to prove his male attractions I certainly don't like the "Hell hath What did your best friend think

effect did their father's behaviour, as to advise Hillary. She will do her or furious. I have been rather sad

For whom did you vote in the last

election? Will you vote for Labour in the next election? Tina Elliot, Edinburgh I voted Lib Dem in Edinburgh, I shall

vote Labour in the Scottish election. Is it true that you have formed a

new relationship with a man that you met through a dating agency? Laura Davies, Clifton

tion that needs to be asked is: what repeatedly I wouldn't be so arrogant no fury" hit. I've never been angry about you writing your memoirs?

Michael Roberts, Stockwell Close women friends are very supportive and commend my courage.

If you could say one thing to Robin now, what would it be? Hugo Rogers, North Yorkshire That depends if it were public or private. It would be something quite gentle and kindly.

Is there anything you miss about being married to Robin? Simon Ellis, Portsmouth The easy companionship we had, and the family unity.

What did you do to distract your-

self on the day that Robin and Gaynor got married? Lizzie Cockayne, Denmark Hill didn't need any distractions that day - I was working.

Are you still interested in politics? Putrick Naylor, Sheffield How can you live in this world and not be? I'd be interested in bringing more applied psychology into the

What was it that attracted you his tially to your former husban Daniel McCartney, Lewisham His intellect and his well-stocke and lively mind. He was also a very affectionate man.

What would you say if one of your children asked to read your book? Julia Peel, Bury St Edmunds The boys both read the book before its publication date.

What is one of your happiest Nick Duffy, Bromley My happiest memories are of relaxed times with the family when the boys were growing up. Rides in the New Forest, an exhilarating

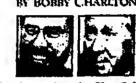
How do you relax? Christine Kendrick, Stockport With my feet up and a good book; a gless of wine, too.

gailop, followed by ten and toast

around the fire.

NEXT WEEK

GERRY ADAMS, FOLLOWED BY BORBY CHARLTON



Send questions for Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and footballing legend Bobby Charlton to: You Ask the Questions, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL, fax 0171-293 2182 or a mail: your questions@indepondent.co.uk. by noon on Friday 5 February

### THE IRRITATIONS OF MODERN LIFE

28. modernisers by Laura thompson

"MODERN" IS the mantra of today. It is modern to be modern, as our Prime Minister might say. To be the opposite of modern is to be fusty, dusty and musty. Heaven forbid! cried Modern Britain, running as far as its JP Tods will carry it towards the millennium, and leaving behind all those reactionaries who preferred Channel 4 News before it

got its exciting new look. Shake-ups of that kind, of course, are all the rage in the modern world. Everything must be rejigged, redone, remade, if it is not to be cast into the outer darkness. Hundreds of thousands of pounds must be spent on giving a new look to BT, or BA, lest people refuse to make telephone calls or fly with a company that doesn't change its logo often enough. The schedule of Radio 4 must be overhauled, to show that it is a station

Company uparber: 01071897

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

HEXCEL CHEMICAL PRODUCTS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the tenoivency Act 1986 that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named company will be held at the above named company will be held at the offices of Grad-Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Methon Street, feating Square, Lumpon NyT 22P on 10 February 1999 at Jorn for the pumposis credited for in Sections 100 and 100 at the pumposis credited for in Sections 100 and 100 at the pumposis.

NOTICE IS HERBIY GIVEN parsant to Section 21 of the lesolvency Act 1966 that Michael William Young and Nigel John Hamilton both of Moston Thorston & Co., Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St. Albans, Hertfordshire Att. 11HD were appointed to act as joint Administrators of Mackerate Graham Lionited by an order of the High Claust of better district dated 25th January 1999. Dated this 25th day of January 1999 M W Young & N J Hamilton-Smith, Joint Administrators

PETER YOUNG Disease



times and not hidebound by dreadful, démodé ideas such as broadcasting The Archers at 1.40pm. Two o'clock is so much more

The modernising mania is unstoppable, irresistible. It wants to demolish the twin towers at Wembley, in order to satisfy some feebly iconoclastic desire to "break with tradition", and it similarly obliges the Queen to sign a football.

meat to the moderniser: his reach knows no bounds and no logic. Why, for example, is the elegant design of the London taxi cab being

Legal Notices

No. 00486 of 1999 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF ALLLIRON

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AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 26th January 1994 presented to Her Majenny's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the Company from 1100,000 to 11,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand. London WC2A "LL on Wedneschy the 10th day of February 1999.

the 10th day of February 1999. ANY creditor or shareholder of the

ANY creditor or sturreinder of the Company desiring to oppose the enabling of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of the learning in person or by Commel for that purpose. A cupy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 29th day of Jamuary 1999. Silverman Sherisker.

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Solicitors to the Company

replaced with something Selfridges undergone a leaves it looking like a

simply feels as though all of modern somehow.

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STEPHEN FRANKLIN Liquidator

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But everything, in fact, is

that looks like a crouched black plastic toad? Why are nice old pubs renamed The Frog and Firkin? Why has vastly expensive refit that suburban Harvey Nichols? To attract new custom, it would say, and maybe it will succeed, since so many of us want to he modern. But it

of the modern world. This is not an attack on newness. Making something new is positive. Modernising something old can, all too easily, be destructive and idiotic. Of course, things must be modernised to make them more convenient, accessible,

Selfridges' solid old-world charm has been stripped away, leaving nothing but the scrubbed homogeneity

cleaner or tidier. But it must be done with care: not just for the sake of it, from fear

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of being left behind, A few years ago, there was a fashion - now, thankfully, discredited - for "restoring" paintings by removing all their nasty antique dirt. Away with the dirt went depth, contrast, mystery, magic. It is the perfect metaphor for the

modernising mania

Sometimes it seems as

though a kind of fear burks within the desire to be modern: fear of the secret strength of the old, the survivors from a less disposable age. Why else the mad urge to replace wood with plastic, works of art with their computerised representations, quirks and anomalies with shiny happy correctness? The creed of modernity does, perhaps, seem irresistible at the dawn of a new millennium. But what, in fact, does it mean? After all even the year 999 probably felt modern at the time.

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Voice personals

# Scams for schools

The parents who cheat for their children's education. By Jack O'Sullivan

snooping around the neighsay he is calling on a prospective pupil. But Mr Fallows may He may be doing detective ceived replies. No one ever work the educational equivalent of the TV licence detector the girl on his list lives at that address. Sometimes he discovers that no one of that name

has ever resided there. This may sound like bizarre behaviour on the part of the headteacher of Camden School for Girls. But when your school is as popular as this one, and parents are pulling elaborate wheezes to gain admission,

you have to be vigilant. The school's deadline for accepting pupils for the autumn term falls at the end of this month. Once a child has been accepted, parents are free to move miles away from the school and younger sisters also win the right to a place. So Mr Fallows has to do his homework now. His dilemma finds echoes all over Britain, wherever the best state schools are over-

Mr Fallows remembers a couple who claimed that their marriage had broken up, and that the children were living with one parent in a flat near the school.

"I had my suspicions," he says. "So I knocked on a few doors and asked the neighbours if there were any children living there. My inquiries led me to decide not to admit the daughter. It seems that the family was living miles away. They threatened to fight me through the courts and complained about the fact that I'd been asking questions. But they subsequently did nothing and I took that to be an admission of guilt."

Many parents find God, if temporarily, in order to secure a place at a church school. since the age of two. But by the Others simply forge their ad- time he was five, no place was

AT THIS time of year, Geoffrey dresses. One west London Fallows, head of one of couple who had recently split London's most sought-after up applied to a London comstate schools, may be found prehensive miles from where they lived. On their application, bourhood. Should you ask, be'll they used the address of a flat belonging the husband's new girlfriend. Letters which went not he visiting for a cosy chat. out from the school duly resuspected the ruse.

In the eyes of the authorities, van He wants to know whether such parents are cheating, although they are content to see parents move house to get within the catchment area of a good school. But a clampdown could be

imminent: the Local Government Association wants parents who caught out cheating to be fined £2,000 - the cost of a year's schooling to the taxpayer. Parents desperate to get their children into good schools are unlikely to be deterred, however. Angelina's parents tried to find places for her in good state secondary schools all over north London. No luck. "I was determined to find her a good school," says her mother. "Eventually, I told her that she would have to go and stay with her grandfather. who lives just around the corner from an excellent school. She stayed there for a few weeks through the admissions process, and got a place." Once admitted, Angelina returned

to her home. Angelina, who has since achieved good exam results, says the consequences for those friends who did not commit such frauds have been dramatic. "My best friend lived only 10 minutes away from my school. But she didn't get a place. She had to go to a school which was so bad that eventually her parents sent her to a boarding school in Ireland."

Another woman pulled a different scam. She had problems finding a place for her child in a primary school serving the rich London suburb of Hampstead. The child's name had been on the walting list



How far would you go for a good school? Tom Pilston

forthcoming "Eventually," says a few sessions with her a friend, "she persuaded someone with children already at the school to say that they were cousins. That did the trick."

As schools catch on to parents' scams, the cheating gets increasingly desperate. One parent from north London failed to find a good school for her daughter, who was stuck in at the school she wanted." a failing comprehensive. A friend explains: "She found a Some names have been counsellor and went along for changed

daughter. She got her daughter to tell the counsellor how tranmatised she was at her new school, how she was being bullied, and so on. I know she manufactured this story. But she persuaded the counsellor to ap-pear at an appeal for her. And that was that. She got her place





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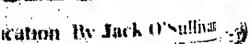
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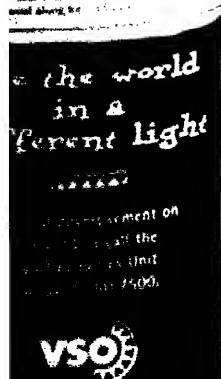
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THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW The Independent 3 February 1999



Hermes



Comme. des Garcons



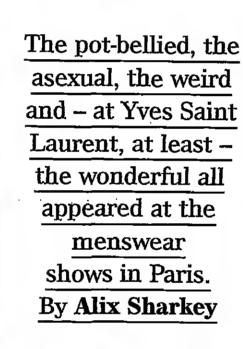
**Dries Van Noten** 



Yohji Yamamoto



Kenzo





**Raf Simons** 







**Yves Saint Laurent** 

Photographs: Chris Moore/Andrew Thomas

# Geek chic

was a far more cerebral affair. There was little real excitement - except for the hit Yves Saint Laurent show - but the Paris-based designers showed real clothes for the thinking man of all shapes, ages and sizes.

Dries Van Noten showed in the old Bibliothèque Nationale, a reading room tha size of a railway termiw with east-iron arches, woodland murals and glass cupolas inlaid with rose-pink ceramic tiles. His best pieces included black wool overcoats pulled in with leather belts, asymmetric pullovers and tailored

f men's fashion week in Milan - home to

Prada, Gucci and Armani - was all about sta-

tus dressing, big bucks and glamour, Paris

evening suits. Apart from over-long sleeves, the cut was elegant and discreet. While a cello sonata played, the Belgian best known for his use of colour and print sent out so much black on black that you wondered if he'd been hanging out with his young compatriot Raf Simons. Nothing was straightforwardly chic or sexy, instead everything was slightly gimpy. But gimpy guys need glad rags too.

If Van Noten went for the head, Yohji Yamamoto went straight for the heart, gathering up a several dozen gypsy musicians from various parts of central Europe to model his collection. This was the school of bard knocks, a show that was full of wrinkled, wiry, middle-aged men, and pot-bellied guys with battered faces, with the occasional gold tooth glinting from a

crooked smile. And the clothes? Ob, the best Yohn men's show that I can remember, no question. Many of the musicians sported ankle-length wrap skirts over trousers, a look that Paris-based designers have been developing for serve time. In five years I predict it will seem perfectly notified. You'll himself said this was a show very close to his own beart - he even included a reworked version of his favourite trousers, straight but baggy wool pants with wide belt-loops and cargo pockets, to be

worn with a soft boxy jacket. At Walter Van Bierendonck, the best seats in the bouse were given over to "family": the front row was taken up by Van Bierendonck's collection of colourful plastic toys - dinosaurs, space monsters, robots, Smurfs, Gremlins and assorted rubber monkeys, bears, penguins, etc. In a word: weird. If Darth Vader's holiday wardrobe had been styled by Courrèges in the Sixties, it might have looked like this, with black PVC catsuits topped with clear plastic macs and searlet wool tunics. Given previous grand triumphs, this was a notably scaled-down and curiously restrained collection, which didn't really come off.

Can you hear that whooshing sound? That's Paul Smith rocketing upmarket in a bid to join the Premier League of luxury labels dominated by Gucci, Prada and Hermès. Having now diffused himself into too many fragments (PS, Jeans, Sport and R Newbold labels). Smith seems intent on boosting his main line to stratospheric heights in a bid to add value to the house stock. It was the old "classics with a twist" chestnut, only this time the twist was... no twist. Seriously, this was Smith playing to his strengths, producing elegant and distinctively British menswear, with the gimmicks and tat finally discarded in favour of cavalry twill, tweed and suede in all the right colours and all the right weights.

The most cohesive look was that Manchester anorak-and-fishing hat moment so beloved of Oasis fans, which ain't saying much

The only way to describe Comme des Garçons' col-lection would be patchy. The red tartan bomber jacket with matching skirt was a little too reminiscent of Jean Paul Gaultier for comfort. Likewise the gold lame kilt, and the white, patent-leather, pleated skirt. Don't get me wrong. I loved these garments, and they were beautifully made. But I've seen them before, or at least close approximations. Still, the brand's staples will always be the beautiful, pared-down black wool suits with their long, fitted jackets, and the grey shirts you can

wear in any office. Kenzo's show provided the most narrow and constrictive view of masculinity yet, with prisoner models, huge numbers appliqued to their shirts, walking along painted white lines on a grey carpet, wearing baggy, asexual clothes in shades ranging from ash to anthracite, via charcoal, dove and slate. Yes, it was a very grey day. The most cohesive look was that Manchester anorak-and-fishing hat moment so beloved of Oasis and their fans, which ain't saying much.

OK, time for some theory. The best designers constantly strive toward a state where they merely allude

to their own work. Having essentialised their style, they are no longer bound by it; instead of conscious ly stamping "identity" on to garments, everything they make is instantly recognisable. After 11 years and 22

shows, this is the point Véronique Nichanian has reached with her designs for Hermès menswear.

From the very first outfit this was an exercise in purity of design. A sublime, putty T-shirt here, a pair of black suede pants there, a three-button suit. There were no gimmicks, fuss or frills - just huxurious fabrics, exquisite colour combinations, the optimum balance of texture, weight and line. For those who know what they're looking at, the Hermes style is unmistakable. For those who don't, it's invisible. The perfect combination.

Which is exactly what Hedi Slimane, the 30-yearold Parisian designer of Yves Saint Laurent Rive Gauche, produced for his fourth and best collection for the house. The company director Pierre Bergé watched with an ecstatic smile as Slimane's YSL boys and men practically slithered along the catwalk - such was the slickness of the show. Slimane kept to a restrained palette of charcoal grey, black and white and punctuated it with a blast of cobalt blue. Let's not mince words here - this is, in the most part, a very gay aesthetic of men's dress, and all the more beautiful for it. High points were nude tulle T-shirts scattered with secuins and worn underneath absolutely perfect, classic YSL tuxedos; a long, slim, belted leather trenchcoat and, finally, e pointy-hooded, three-quarter-length padded coat.

The young Belgian Raf Simons, original and daring though he may be, still feels obliged to "tag" his own designs, with little "r" logos on his beautiful turtleneck sweaters, or suits with his own name visibly woven into the pinstripe. Strange, because his Gothic aesthetic and severely tailored silhouette are both instantly recognisable.

His trademark skinny, pubescent boys marched out. bearing black banners, looking forlorn in inky, vam-

pire-like capes. It was wonderful theatre, and seductively sombre, but perhaps obscured the sensual quality of Simons's work, particularly the knitwear, which is actually soft, huxurious and welcoming. But the designer seems determined to offer the bleak, austere vision of Bowie's Thin White Duke period. Come to think of it, Station to Station would have made the perfect soundtrack as we trooped out into the night, searching for the train back to civilisation.



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\*THE INDEPENDENT

Yes, it has its faults, but the Lottery is without doubt the answer to every cash-strapped arts organisation's prayers. Wrong, says David Benedict. It's a disaster that has distorted funding for a generation

# Lottery with violence

hat's this? Good news in ters of Lottery allocations? It's true. In one fell swoop, 80 arts organisations took a giant leap forward last week thanks to a very smart application made by the Independent Theatre Council

The ITC is the management body representing small- and middlescale performing arts companies, venues and individuals. It ranges from tiny organisations that only their devoted audiences have heard of to international success stories Scotland's Communicado and Londoo's Bush Theatre. Now 80 of its neediest members have been given a major technological upgrade.

This Lottery award provides ill-funded companies with £4,000 worth finished off with too litof computer equipment including the money. It's a victim software packages, internet service provision and access to a website providing marketing, ticketing and communications back-up, plus an extra £1,425 worth of training. The difference this will make to the companies is out of all proportion to the size of the award but, sadly, such lateral thinking is the exception rather than the rule.

Without a doubt, the Lottery is the surprise. Just how many biggest disaster ever to befall arts funding in this country. Other than the newly-made millionaires, the only people who would give it an unequivocal thumbs up would be the hundreds of arts consultants who have made a killing out of it. Almost every arts organisation which has had dealings with the Lottery has a horror story about some of these "experts". Their skills in systems analysis are irrefutable but their specific knowledge of the relevant artform is often insultingly lacking. Ignorance notwithstanding, most of them charge exorbitant fees, earning as much in a day as their clients will pay their performers in a week, or

two, or even three. It had seemed like such a good idea at the time. In the notoriously cash-strapped arts world, which organisation would be foolish enough to turn down

cert hall? In the long years of standstill funding which ignored inflation, major capital investment in buildings for art was about as likely as the development of a porcine airforce. Suddenly, new money was being poured into "good causes". Administrators rubbed their hands and architects began drawing up plans.

Last week, for the first time in 17 years, Pina Bausch's company came to London. At last, in the shape of the rebuilt Sadlers Wells, we had a dance house big enough for this world-class talent. The new theatre like Adventures in Motion Pictures, is one of the most prestigious and most necessary of the Lottery schemes, yet within months of its opening the building shows signs of wear and much of the detailing looks like what it is: a rush job

> of the fiasco of matching funding. The Lottery provides only 75 per cent of the money for every scheme. The bidding organisation must raise the rest itself. In the case of Sadler's Wells, tireless fundraisers failed to meet the original target. This is no people are there with tens of thousands of pounds to give away who seek no direct return on their investment? And how do they choose between the increasingly desperate pleas from all the arts organisations, all chasing

the same money? The Lottery has been catastrophic for several reasons. The most common prob-

bid to renovate, refurbish or rebuild lem has been the "white elephant" the fabric of a theatre, gallery or conscenario: buildings such as the scenario: buildings such as the Cambridge Arts Theatre have gone up, only to collapse artistically as the Lottery has failed to provide the funding to run them, or to pay for the art and artists to put in them. The rules which allowed that to happen have changed - to the chagrin of those who failed under the unworkable guidelines - but this crucial division between money for buildings and the work they produce has confused the very people this money was aimed at: the public. An even more insidious problem

has been the Lottery's miserable handling of its publicity. Large grants to important London-based schemes were badly timed, with the result that a sceptical media has often taken deserving arts organisations to the cleaners. One effect of this is that money for London has now been capped in favour of a regional programme ignoring the size of the capital -home to a fifth of the country's population - not to mention its international arts role. The Barbican is the latest organisation to fail to win Lottery money. Understandably, its director John Tusa

reason is that other London venues' needs are deemed more urgent. Lack of London provision mean that several venues now face closure on grounds of health and safety. It's all become horribly, dangerously

Worst of all, the public now mistakenly believes the arts to be swimming in money. When the Lottery began, the then arts minister Virginia Bottomley announced in these pages that statutory arts funding would not be affected. Three weeks later, it was cut. Trying to make a case for increased arts funding was never easy. In the wake of the Lot-

tery it is now virtually impossible. Labour's record has provided few reasons to be cheerful. Culture Secretary Chris Smith may have sorted out the Covent Garden flasco, but there are worrying signs that his department is courting public favour by bowing before the great god "efficiency" and 'downsizing" the "bureaucracy" of

> the Arts Council It seems the Government is seeking to take direct control of funding in a deeply undemocratic way. In all this time, there has been virtually no discussion about the politics of arts funding. A few individuals have raised voices in defence of their own organisations, but the wider debate has been notable for its absence. Arts Council leaders should have been the most eloquent advocates, but past and present incumbents have remained silent al-

most to the point of neg-

ligence. Clearly, they believed that their these constraints. The Lottery story is reminiscent of the fairy tale with the moral; be careful what you wish for... you might get it. Just a few years

ment, rather than the nation's art

In order to ameliorate this mess

further assurances should be de-

manded for the statutory provision

of arts funding. The level of Lottery matching funding should be lowered

- why the value of an arts project should be assessed by its ability to

fundraise has never been satisfac-

torily explained.

A clear national strategy must be

built up through far more consulta-tion with local authorities and re-

gional bodies on how Lottery money

can be spent to improve the infra-

structure of arts provision: bringing arts to the people and people to the

acts. Current unstrategic thinking al-

lows large-scale organisations with

influential board members to win

Lottery support at the expense of

Lottery needs closer examination.

The last annual report revealed

that including "soft" commitments

- those offered but not finally signed

and sealed - the council was over-

committed to the tune of more than

£270m. (It is for this reason that Lon-

culable with hopes dashed due to cir-

cumstances beyond their control.

clear plan for London that organi-

sations can work withio. It's fash-

ionable to compare the arts with

industry. No commercial set-up

would countenance working within

The goalposts are moving yet

don has been squeezed).

The Arts Council's handling of the

marginalised, smaller schemes.

and artists.

ago, priceless jewels appeared to be falling from politicians' lips. Yet, like most fairy tales, it didn't all come true in the way that anyone expected. And unless the arts world gets its act together, the ending is going to be far from happy.

Level playing

POP SHEPHERO'S BUSH EMPIRE LONDON

SOMETIMES IT seems that no pop music of the past remains permanently beyond the paic. Boy George and Culture Club are back in the charts, and those fellow Eighties clotheshorses Duran Duran and the Human League have recently toured successfully. But the rehabilitation of Mark King, former leader of the quietly huge Level 12, may prove to be more hopeful and welcome.

King's previous band represented the forgotten side of that benighted decade, a world of furry dice and soporific jazz-funk sex in Sierras and white stilettos.

He was the Man with the Golden Thumb, a bass player so good that his hands were insured for a fortuce - and be still trades on it. On his entrance he profiered his instrument to his loyal supporters, and his four-piece band kicked straight into Level 42's hit "Hot Water".

Remarkably, they sounded exactly as they used to, even down to the now-dated stabs on synth and superfluous virtuosity smeared all over what is of heart a simple pop song.

Unsurprisingly, the set was based around old favourites such again next year, but no one knows as "Love Games" and "It's Over". what the new criteria will be, mak-But the negatives were the same ing it impossible to plan or draft potential submissions. The cost to as ever - trite lyrics, a tendency to arts organisations in terms of time, show off to no great effect, and money and labour, has been incalfrantic pacing. Songs from King's new album One Man were simpler, but the ghastly The Lottery must come up with a

"Changing the Guard", with its blustering chorus "Is this the end of the old guard?. I wouldn't count on it", was a give-away; such selfjustification is usually the sign of an artist painfully aware of his or her own irrelevance.

Of course, King is still a territic bassist, his prodigious bottom end carrying "Lessons in Love". which frankly would have benefited from the absence of the other instruments.

Apparently The Fast Show's John Thomson was a huge Level 42 fan, but even in his guise as presenter of the spoof "Jazz Club" he would have been hard-put to say "Mm, n-i-c-e" about this reminder of a piece of pop history best forgotten.

STEVE JELBERT

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Culis cost 60p per minute and should last no longer than two minutes. All entrants must be aged 18 years or over, The winners will be picked at random after the lines close at midright on Thorsday 4 February 1989. Winners will be notified in writing by Friday 12 February. There are no alternative prizes or cash substitute. Normal independent rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

# The natural force of gravity

ON SATURDAY, the Canadian pianist Louis Lortie reached the fourth recital in his Beethoven series, with four Sonatas written in 1800 and 1801, including the two Op27, subtitled "Quasi una fantasia". Beethoven was aiming at more flexibility and asked for all the movements of the Op 27 Sonatas to be played without a break. Lortie also ran the movements together in the other two Sonatas, Op 26 and 28, smoothing things over with just a hint of dismissiveness.

CLASSICAL LOUIS LORTIE, ASHLEY WASS

WIGMORE HALL, LONDON He's a very rational pianist, and there were no idiosyncratic

touches - nor, to me at least, any revelations. But to someone coming to Beethoven's Sonatas relatively new, Lortie is a reliable, straightforward guide.

Monday night was the Wig-more debut of the young English pianist Ashley Wass,

winner of the 1997 Loodon Piano Competition. Behind his deeply considered programme hovered the ghosts of three great pianists: Rachmaninov and Busoni, with their arrangements of movements from Bach violin Partitas; and Horowitz, with Samuel Barber's mighty Sonata of 1949, which he first made widely known. Instead of emulating Horowitz's special brand of brilliance, Wass brought his own integrity to this monu-

mental, and at times, frighten-

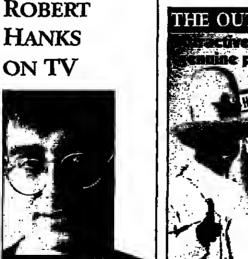
ing work. The slow movement, "Fugue", which ended the in Wass's hands, seemed genuinely deep and grand without any suggestion of posturing.

Wass's own character as a pianist is one of natural gravity and strength through understatement. Which served minor" very well indeed, and saved them from seeming like century keyboard music. a glorified set of exercises.

The spirit of Bach, filtered through a late Romantic twi- The next recital in Louis Lorlight, pervades Cesar Franck's

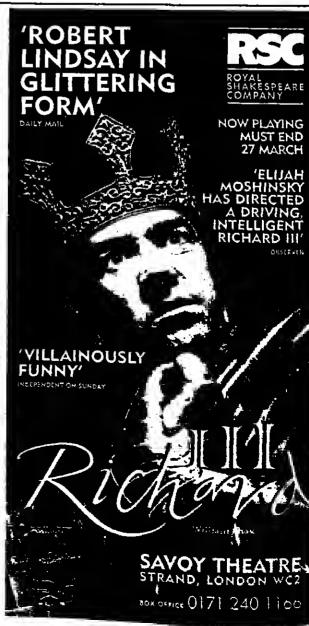
recital. Here, Wass's unforced singing line and sense of . orchestral depth, and his instinct for distinguishing between contrapuntal structure and colouristic texture, combined gloriously to reaf-Beethoven's "32 Variations in C firm this work as one of the sublime achievements of 19th-

tie's Beethoven series is on "Prelude Chorale" and Sunday. 4pm, 0171-935 2141



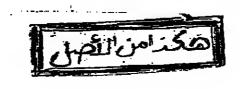
Man was born free but everywhere he is in chains. Or, if not in chains, then at any rate in PVC underwear and nipple-rings





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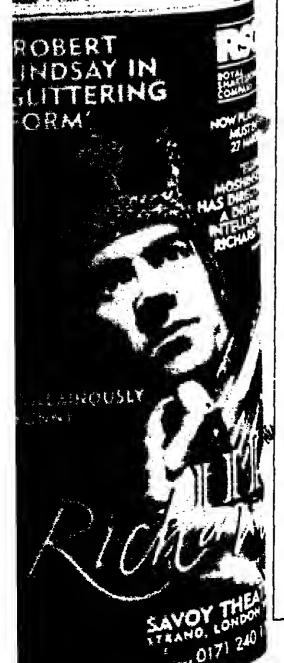
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### THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW The Independent 3 February 1999

# -MIDWEEK MONEY-

# Borrow in good faith

A new scheme offers Muslims mortgage loans that don't break Islamic Law. By Alison Steed

illions of mortgage borrowers tend to take for granted the likely availahility of a home loan package that meets their needs. Yet UK lenders have signally failed to deliver suitable products to one section of society.

For many years, more than 1.5 million Muslims living in the UK have had to compromise their beliefs to huy a house. The payment or receipt of interest is not legal in Islam. It is forbidden in the Koran, and that nir.ioves the possibility of taking out a mortgage with high street lenders and complying with Islamic Law.

Although attempts have been made by the Islamic Investment Banking Unit (IIBU), a division of The United Bank of Kuwait, to respond to this oeed by launching a Muslim mortgage in the UK, until recently aspects of it had fallen foul of Islamic Law.

The Murabaha Plan, launched in 1997, works oo the basis of trading, or buying and selling goods, at a profit. The bank buys the house for the client and then sells it on to him for a higher price. This plan can be used by Muslims to buy a house, but not to re-mortgage. This is because under Islamic Law, or Sharia'a, it is unacceptable for a bank to buy the house from its owner and sell it back at a higher price.

So at the start of the year, IIBU launched a re-mortgage product, the Ijara Plan, which enables Muslims to get out of an interest-paying mortgage contract with a high street lender. With this re-mortgage plan, the bank buys the house from the owner, pays off the mortgage with the original lender, and then "rents" the property back to the client.

Keith Leach, financial services manager at the Islamic Investment Banking Unit, says: "Part of that rent gives us our profit and covers our costs, and at the same time they get to buy the bouse from us for a deferred period, say 25 years."

The Ijara plan will have the pricing of its "rent" altered every year, so economically it will be equivalent to a variable interest rate mortgage, according to Mr Leach. He adds: "The oumbers might equal the same as interest, but technically, legally, and structurally, they are not paying us interest."

For both plans, the client has to pay 20 per cent of the value of the property as a down-payment. This is IIBU believes that these are the only a large amount in comparison to the mortgage products on the market to high street lenders, but as an Islamic company, the IIBU does oot want to encourage people to take on excessive financial commitments", and so spurns insurance products. Consequently, it takes a more cautious approach to the amount of finance that is available to individuals. Another drawback for both home-



The payment or receipt of interest is forbidden in the Koran, but many British Muslims have taken out loans Neil Duncan

excessive financial commitments

Mr Leach says: "We have spent a fair Advisers, does not believe that the

not eligible for mortgage interest tax relief (Miras), as he is not paying the bank interest. However, this now amounts to barely £20 a month and the signs are that the Government plans to reduce Miras further.

One problem with the original Murabaha Plan is that the repayment term is only 15 years, making it too expensive for many people. The ijara plan can offer payment terms

The IIBU already has 80 clients the Murabaha Plan, with approximately another 20 applications currently being processed. and has already received its first applications for the Ijara plan. The comply with Islamic law, but they are not the first to be offered in the UK.

The Bank of Credit Commerce International (BCCD, which was particularly popular with the Asian community, did offer a Muslim mortgage before it was famously closed down by the Bank of England in 1991. Albaraka International Bank, the

buying plans is that the customer is British division of a Saudi Arabian Financial Services, and hopes to finance institution, also offered Muslim mortgages, but voluntarily surrendered its banking licence and re-paid all its depositors in 1993.

After the BCCI shutdown, Muslims had good reason to mistrust the banks, and that mistrust is thought to have contributed to the slow initial take-up rate of the Murabaha plan, but it has started to improve.

amount of time trying to get our po-

sitioning and imaging right, and [to get] people to trust us, to know that

we are not in it for the short term."

underlined by the fact that IIBU is

to launch itself as a separate com-pany from The United Bank of

Kuwait in the summer. It will then

be known as Al Manzil Islamic

This long-term commitment is

offer a range of Islamic finance products to parallel what is available from high street banks. Its products will be marketed through independent financial advisers, and it is or-

ganising seminars to brief them. But opinions on the eventual popularity of these products vary. Syed Junaid Ahmad, senior partner at Unicorn Independent Financial

take-up rate will be very high.

"About 90 per cent of the Muslims

have succumbed to the idea that

[paying interest] is something that

terest. So they will stick it out."

Mohammed Asiam, general manager, Takafol UK says: "[The Clients are discouraged from taking on

Sharia'a board) are still considering it. We haven't developed an Islamic mortgage itself, but we hope to do mortgages eventually. We want to expand and to have more products that the Islamic market demands."

hopes to launch a Muslim mortgage

is a Geneva-based Islamic financial

services company called Dar al-

Maal al-Islami Trust. It hopes to

launch a Muslim mortgage through

one of its subsidiaries, which will be

marketed in Britain through its UK

arm, Takafol UK. It currently offers

an Islamic saving and investment

plan, with some life assurance, and

it has submitted plans for a Muslim

mortgage to its Sharia'a board.

Alison Steed is assistant features editor at 'Financial Adviser'.

they will just have to live with, and The Independent' has published a 36-page Guide to Mortgages' on God will forgive them for taking a mortgage where they are paying inalmost every aspect of home loans. rest. So they will stick it out." For your free copy, sponsored by
But IIBU may soon have some
First Active, the flexible mortgage competition. Another company that company, call 0800 550551

# Savaged by an old dear

YESTERDAY AN elderly client of ours, who is perhaps best described as the classic "little old lady" called in at our office. Mrs Dixon was upset because her life-long faith in National Savings products had been severely dented, if not shattered.

"I have just had some National Savings Certificates mature," she started, "and I have been down to the Post Office to find out what the new rate is and I cannot believe it. Do you know they are only

paying 3.5 per cent? Shocking!" National Savings have been the backbone of Mrs Dixon's investments for as long as she can remember. Having reached 75, and needing to reinvest her matured certificates, she suffered quile a shock when she saw what income she would receive.

I tried to be of help: "Have you looked at the Pensioner Bonds? They pay 4.5 per cent." "I have indeed," she half shouted back at me. "I bought some a few years ago when they were paying 7 per cent. but I still have to pay tax." "At least you get paid

monthly," I said. "What am I going to do to get a better income?" she

Well, if you want to stick with National Savings, the Income Boods are paying 5.75 per ceot gross at the moment. hut this is subject to variation. like holding your money in the building society."

"I'm not sure even that is good enough," she replied. "To he honest," I told her, "I think you are best forgetting about National Savings, because you need a higher income than they are paying and there are products that can help you. There are two areas you should consider. Corporate bond PEPs and with-profit bonds. A whole new range of high-yielding corporate bond PEPs has been launched. Some will pay 8 per cent gross, and because it's in a PEP it's tax-free."

"That's all very well," Mrs Dixon said, "but won't PEPs lose their tax-free status when ISAs come in next April?"

"There are going to be some changes," I said, "but corporate bond PEPs are still going to be able to reclaim 20 per cept tax, unlike equity PEPs which will only be able to reclaim 10 per cent. So they are still well worth looking at." "Yes, hut they are oot nice

and safe like National Savings. are they?" "No. I am afraid these days

THE FIXERS



COCKERILL

you are going to have to take more risk to get a higher income, and these corporate bonds offering 8 per cent are going to fluctuate in value."

"I would like to invest with M&G if I can, as they seem very trustworthy," Mrs Dixon retorted. She is not uncommon among investors in having her "favourites" when it came to investment houses. Fortunately M&G have a good high-yielding corporate bond, so I was happy to recommend this PEP

"I also think you should consider a with-profits bond," I Mrs Dixon said: "I had one

of those; in fact I did quite well from it. I think it was with the Prudential."

"Well, the Prudential still offers a with-profits bond and the annual bonus is 5.75 per cent net, so you are getting the same return oo the National Savings income bonds and you have no tax to pay. The income can be taken moothly:"

"Hmm," she murmured, "that sounds OK but their rates change as well, don't they?" "Yes. they do set the bonus

every year and there is a possibility that if interest rates fall, it will be lower when they next announce it. However, this would result in National Savings income bonds, huilding society and bank account rates falling as well. Don't forget, you do get a terminal honus added to your with-profits bond, which you will benefit from when you cash it in."

When Mrs Dixon called back, she had decided to purchase a corporate bond PEP and a with-profits bond. "I've giveo up with National

Savings and told all the ladies at the WI meeting that there are some attractive alternatives available. Perhaps you'd like to come along and talk to us one evening?"

Tim Cockerill is managing director of the independent financial advisers Whitechurch Securities (0800 374413)

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### How to pep up your portfolio

unit or investment trust PEPs you will lose that amount of ISA will have experienced the frustshowing that their performance has failed to ignite. Indeed, in a few cases over

the years, the funds in question may well have lost savers a large slice of their original investment. Under such circumstances, many savers will be tempted to bury their heads in the sand. Others will take the attitude that, well, perhaps the fund in question did not do well this year. But switching to another one deprives the old one of the chance to recover some of its lustre. Indeed, there is some evidence that this is exactly what happens in the case of pension funds; a recent survey showed that where trustees of occupational pension schemes ditched a poorly performing fund manager, that firm often delivered better re-

dumped - better even, than the one chosen to replace it. That said, there are times when it is impossible to ignore no longer satisfied by the anreality: some funds really are dogs and nothing, but nothing, will change the fact. If this is the

turns the year after being

case, it is time to switch. If so, here are some simple rules to bear in mind:

■ There is no problem with switching from one PEP provider to another. This will continue to apply even after PEPs are replaced by newstyle ISAs in April.

■ If you want to transfer a PEP to an ISA, the most you will be allowed to move in one year is the maximum equity-linked limit of 25,000 a year (27,000 in copy of the guide

ANYONE WITH a portfolio of 1999/2000). But doing so means allowance, so it makes sense to

■ Some companies administer their plans so that each year's separate PEP is amalgamated with previous years'.

This means that if you have been with a company for two or three years, all your investments may technically count as one PEP, even if you have built up a stable of different funds. some of them doing much better than others. Ask if you are allowed to switch just the poor performer. If you are in this position, seek independent

financial advice. ■ Beware of penalties. Some managers will apply exit charges, measured in percentages or in a flat fee, when you transfer the PEP.

■ To prevent the situation from deteriorating again, be prepared to review your PEPs' performance annually. If they have done dismally for three years or more compared to their sector in the market and you are swers to your questions, then

The Independent has published a free 28-page Guide to PEPs, with advice on the types of PEPs available, how to choose between them, where to buy them and how much to pay for them. The guide, sponsored by Scottish Widows Fund Management, is written by Nic Cicutti, personal finance editor of 'The Independent'. Call 0345 678910 to obtain your

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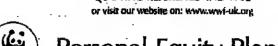
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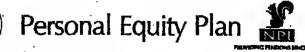
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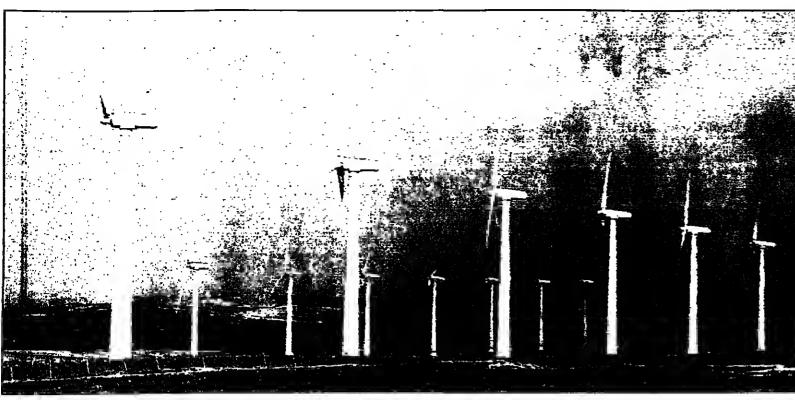
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The world of investments does not have to be driven by greed: a more principled approach can pay off

# Money and morality

shares in a company that destroys rainforests, makes landmines, pr helps prop up an undemocratic regime? Opininn polls suggest not. Most of us would like to see nur investments run on ethical and environmental principles. Far fewer of us - barely a

fifth - realise that there is an ethical investment option, with a wide enough range of products currently available to cover must of nur requirements. These products range from PEP-able unit and investment trusts, through personal pensions, to endowment savings plans that can be used to pay off a mortgage.

The growth of the ethical sector has also been rapid, with more than £2.2bn under management in unit and investment trusts alone. The largest of these funds, Friends Provident's Stewardship unit trust, controls assets worth more than £670m. Charities and a growing number of local authority and trade union penBeginning a series on ethical finances, Iain Morse

looks at how to invest with a clear conscience

sion schemes use ethical or screening, and a new style of environmental criteria to "screen" potential investments. Charities alone currently invest more than £10hn in this way. Tessa Tennant, head of

research at NPTs Global Care Fund, says: "Ethical investment, is no longer seen as cranky or bad for your pocket. It has entered the mainstream." So how do ethical funds dif-

fer from the non-ethical? They use negative and positive screens to avoid and select certain areas of investment. For instance, the Stewardship fund avoids animal testing and the production and sale of alcohol, and applies no fewer than nine negative screens.

But critics argue that using negative criteria achieves little in terms of changing the prac-tice of those companies whose shares are not bought by ethical fund-managers. Much here depends on the use of positive

pro-active shareholding with fund managers trying to bring about changes in policy among the company managements they deal with.

While some funds, such as Scottish Equitable's Ethical unit trust, have no positive screening, longer-established ones like the Stewardship or NPTs Global Care unit trust. promote change in this way. If you want not just to avoid

certain business areas but also to support others, then the positive screens used by a fund may be as important as the negative ones when you make a choice between them. Look also at the types of contact maintained between your ethical fund manager and the companies they invest in. As an example, Aberdeen Prolific's Ethical unit trust uses eight negative screens, but only two

positive ones, and does not

talk to company management nn ethical issues. By comparison, the Stewardship fund has eight positive screens, carries out its own ethical research. talks to companies on ethical issues and makes nn-site visits. This shows how much these

funds can differ, but the use of

negative and positive criteria

does give them one feature in common: they hold a higher percentage of shares in small to medium-sized companies, and a smaller percentage in large companies, than their non-ethical equivalents. Understanding how this can effect fund performance is im-

portant if you decide to choose an ethical investment. Shares in small companies are inherently more volatile than those of large ones. For instance, about 70 per

cent of the daily value of all shares traded on the London Stock Exchange are in the 100

largest firms. Yet because of negative screening, most ethical funds will invest in no more than 20 nr 30 of these. This means that if you invest in an ethical fund, you should be doing so over at least the medium term - say, five years - and

not expect short-term gains. This is not just because of the size of the companies, but also their type of business. Many are providers of goods or services in areas ranging from protection of the environment to public transport, and from energy efficiency to recycling consumer waste. Richard Singleton, of

Friends Provident, argues: "Very often we are helping to develop the industries of the future. Take pollution. There is a long-term benefit both in environmental terms and for shareholders if a company can anticipate future regulatory changes and build these into current operations. Today we are seeing industries having to clear up after themselves. Surely it would have been less expensive for them to have avoided this in the first place."

## An early start on the financial facts of life

Alongside sex education, schoolchildren need a steer when it comes to monetary matters. By **John Andrew** 

THERE IS something curious - ance Education and slightly sed - about the fact (PFEG), progress is being that sex education features in the National Curriculum, but personal finance does not. Perhaps teachers do not feel so confident about the financial facts of life".

The evidence for a need for greater financial awareness is overwhelming in 1995, the National Foundation for Educational Research was commissioned by NatWest to undertake a survey of adult learning needs related to financial literacy. This revealed that only a third of the population understood the meaning of "gross" and "net" interest, and that 40 per cent of young workers and 28 per cent of the general population did not realise that 10 per cent of £300 is more

Recently the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif), the unit trust trade body, published the latest findings from the Financial Awareness and Consumer Education Tracking Study:

Each month a sample of 1,000 people are asked 14 questions covering a wide range of personal finance topics. They are the same questions, and will be changed only when circumstances dictate. To preserve the integrity of the survey, the questions cannot be revealed. The study revealed that there had been no improvement in the knowledge of personal finance over the previous 12 months.

Those surveyed increasingly recognise that an understanding of personal finance is of fundamental importance to their independence. Many bemoan the fact that they were never taught anything about it at school. Autif therefore found it surprising to discover that 72 per cent of the population either believes that personal finance is now a core subject in the National Curriculum for secondary education or does not know whether it is included.

Thanks to the Personal Fin-

Group made. This consortium of financial service industry representatives. regulators, government officials, the Consumers Association and educationists believes that greater attention to financial matters in the National Curriculum is the surest way to help young people make independent, in-

nances and long-term security. One early finding was that despite companies in the financial sector preparing educmaterial ational inrwarding it to schools, it was not being used. The PFEG has therefore produced a series of interlinking initiatives to help

formed decisions about their fi-

Only a third of the population understand the meaning of 'gross' and 'net' interest

with teaching personal finance in schools.

The brochure Learning Framework sets out learning objectives for pupils aged five to 16. These include understanding the concept of money; money management, and making financial decisions. It suggests classroom activities linked into all subjects in the current National Curriculum.

This is supplemented by Opportunities in the Curricuhum, which goes through the National Curriculum identifying points where personal finance topics are relevant to subjects such as maths, English, history and geography. The Directory of Resources not only lists the sponsored resource material available, but also indicates how these fit into the Learning Framework.

Teachers are, not unnaturally concerned about taking

advantage of the free material supplied by financial services companies. In the past what should be generic information has bordered on advertising material. The PFEG has therefore issued guidelines for sponsored material.

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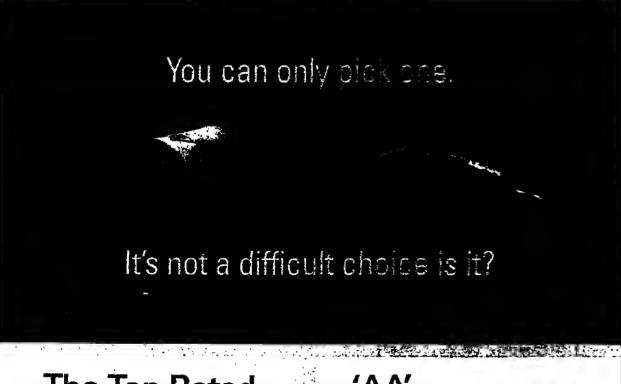
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The Learning Framework is currently being piloted in schools in Manchester, Kent and central Lundon. Some 24 schools are involved, with different backgrounds: primary and secondary; urban and rural; large and small; singlesex and co-educational; and maintained and independent.

A range of curriculum approaches is being tested to validate the Learning Framework in a number of contexts The pilot is being carefully monitored by the PFEG. This is a slep in the right direction. However, a fundamental problem remains. Although PFEG research reveals that 77 per cent of secondary school teachers recognise the importance of personal finance education, only 10 per cent feel confident to teach it. A further barrier is seen to be "lack of time" because of the breadth of the National Curriculum.

So what can parents do to ensure that their children are financially aware? Victoria Nye. founder member of the PFEG, has this advice: "Parents should ask schools to include reference to personal finance when developing basic skills such as numeracy, literact and communications. Also, during the school holidays parents can help their children become canny consumers. Everyday activities such as shapping, cooking and DIY tasks can all be low-key lessons in personal finance."

Teachers may obtain copies of the brochures mentioned above from: Roshan Bailey, Project Manager, PFEG, c.o. ABI, 51 Gresham Street, London, EC3V 7HQ. (0171-216 7550, or e-mail: roshan.baileyat



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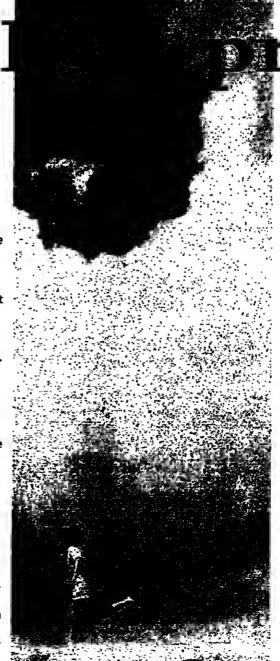
investment, and currently have

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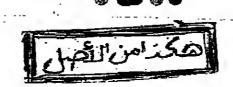


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It's a private matter

The idea of becoming a plc no longer seems quite so attractive. And many publicly quoted companies are retreating into private hands. By Roger Trapp

me was when it seemed that just about every business was set on hecoming a public company. After all, floating a business often makes its founder rich beyond most people's dreams. However, the notion does not seem to be as attractive as it once was. Research published last week shows an explosion in the number of publicly quoted companies that are retreating into private hands. It is not the first time this sort of thing

has happened. Back in 1989 there was a near-doubling in the number of public-toprivate transactions in the UK. Accordingly, the more cynically minded might view this as the sort of free spending that is typical at the end of rising markets.

But those involved in funding the deals say this is different. Tom Lamb, managing

Institutional investors are welcoming buy-outs as a good way of getting out of 'illiquid' shareholdings

director UK of Barclays Private Equity, which, with the accountants Deloitte & Touche, sponsored the study by the Centre of Management Buy-out Research at Nottingham University's business school, says there has been a much more dramatic increase in the number of deals - 29 last year, compared with just seven in 1997. while in 1989 there were 13, compared with seven the previous year.

Moreover, the value of the deals is lower. Many transactions in the late Eighties were completed after hostile bid battles involving outside managers. This time, only seven of the situations involved companies valued at more than £100m.

It is this that leads Mr Lamb and Chris Ward, head of private equity at Deloitte's corporate finance business, to conclude that the level of activity is down to the par-

ticular plight of smaller quoted companies. The division of the stock market into high-flying telecommunications and other hi-tech stocks, and the remainder of the



The stockmarket's tendency to chase big business has made smaller companies less eager to go public Reuters

there is another split - between larger pubing the level at which they begin to invest. lic companies and the rest.

As a result, what are known as "small cap" companies are likely to be ignored by investors. Though they may be performing well in trading terms, this lack of interest in their stock tends to lead to underperformance in the share price. which in turn leads to a vicious circle, whereby the underperformance of the shares puts off would-be investors.

Nor does the issue have only a domestic dimension. Mr Lamb sees signs of institutional investors looking at stock. With other means of raising finance more market, is familiar to most observers. But markets on a pan-European basis and rais- available than before, going public without

As a result, institutional investors are becoming less scephical of management motives in such deals, and are welcoming buy-outs and similar transactions as a way of getting out of "illiquid", or little-traded, shareholdings at a premium.

At the same time, founders of businesses are becoming more sophisticated. Whereas previously they might have aimed at floating the company merely to see the letters "pic" after its name, now they are more likely to assess what it is they seek to gain.

a plan can lead to managers of such businesses into a cul-de-sac, argues Mr Lamb. But it is not all good news. The venture capitalists who back such deals will have

to work harder if they are to achieve the

"exits" by which they make their profits. Since such indifference to smaller companies is likely to continue, they are unlikely to be able to produce quick returns to the stock market. Instead, Mr Ward expects there to be a trend towards selling such businesses to other companies, or acquisitions and restructurings aimed at making the enlities larger before attempting a re-

### Time for action

this lunch time because Heartstone Futures have announced, after sacking 20 per cent of the staff last month, that their jobs are to be shared out among everyone left. increasing their workload by 25 per cent. The chairman and the chief executive have, coincidentally, received 17 per cent pay rises.

Management are using phrases like "tough decisions", "globa! recession", "if you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem".

The employees, meanwhile, with the prospect of seeing less of their families, more of each other and no change to their pay packets, have called a union meeting.

I'm a great believer in the union movement, hut have never had the opportunity either to join one or to attend a meeting, there being no union for downtrodden temporary workers (and if there were, I'm not sure what we'd discuss: the plentymore-where-you-came-from rule. perhaps?), so I was thrilled when Candy suggested I might want to come and watch.

I should have remembered that we live in an age where The Strawbs' satire on Seventies workforce obduracy, "Part of the Union", is used, seemingly without irony, as an advertising jingle for personal

Sally, union rep, waited until everyone had stopped gossiping, then said: "Well, we've a lot to get through. Does anyone want to kick off the dehate on the new proposals?" and a profound silence fell. Nobody, it seemed, wanted to stand out. Finally, someone put their hand up and Sally gave him the floor.

"I think we should vote on whether to discuss the matter," he said to the group.

"Thanks, Ken," said Sally. "Does anyone want to second that?" A young woman put her hand up. "OK, thanks, Jan. All in favour?

"No," said Jan, "I wasn't seconding. I was going to say that it was a waste of time to vote on it." About 15 people heaved sighs. "Good point," said Sally. "But it's been proposed now, and if we start a

debate on whether or not to vote on

this, we'll never get to debate the proposals "Oh, yeah," said Jan. "Then I might as well just second it, then." Everyone in voted in favour. Finally, Ken stood up and started the

"I think it's a disgrace," he said.



THE TEMP

They can't seriously expect us to take this lying down. I work more than my contracted hours as it is. We must do something."

"Anyone else?" said Sally: 'Yes." A lad with spots over by the kitchen hatch stuck his hand up. "t just want to say that they can't be allowed to treat us like this. I don't want to work extra bours for no more money, and I'm sure nobody else does, either."

And then the floodgates opened. Once a couple of people had had their say, everyone, it seemed. wanted to repeat them. The clock ticked away over Sally's head as voice after voice was added to the consensus: "It's a disgrace." "They can't get away with it." "I'm not paid enough as it is."

Lunch hour came to an end, and people started looking at their watches. And on droned the downtrodden: "My wife never sees me as it is"; "I worked 50 hours a week last month"; "Do they think we're machines?"

And I realised that the function of democracy in the Ninelies is to give everyone so much opportunity to get their voice heard that they never have the time to take any action. Finally, people started edging toward the door,

surreplitiously slipping their coats on, and Sally decided to call a halt. "OK." she said. "So we take a vote on whether to take a ballot on whether to get the Electoral Reform society to run an official ballot on whether we censure the company. All those in favour? Against?

"Now!" she yelled at the retreating backs, "we've some husiness left over from last time. If you remember, we had to stop before we could vote on whether to put the procedures in effect to take a ballot on censuring the company over the redundancies. Anyone got anything to add? No? OK, All those in... yes, Jack, you had something to say ...?"

Motion carried.

# My boss is a low-maintenance celebrity

A YEAR ago I would been horrified at the to attention when she arrives. When we idea of working in TV. I was involved in the arts as a stage manager and administrator for a black theatre group and, used to scrimping and saving, saw TV people as having more money than they knew what to do with. I never wanted to be a media bimbo. But five months ago I got frustrated by the theatre's emphasis on bums on seats, and applied for a job at Anglia.

I made it clear at the interview that I wanted the job to be mutually beneficial to us both - I would bring skills while learning new ones. Inihally I was attracted by the admin aspect but the production and the technical side soon fascinated me. I was employed as a programme coordinator hut during my first week Trisha's PA was promoted and I was given her job.

After the upheavals around Vanessa Feltz's sudden departure from ITV, it was a challenge for all of us. I quickly saw how hard people work for their money. Although I hadn't seen Vanessa, or any of the other daytime talk shows, I was aware of their importance. Trisha is very different from a Vanessa or a Jerry Springer type. She seems a little more human to me. She never acts like a celebrity in the office; she's just plain Trisha, and no one suddenly stands

work late, so does she.

Her personality hasn't changed since she became famous; she will still take her children for a burger down the high street. She's also very much part and parcel of the Norwich community. Bizarrely, Trisha can walk through reception and none of the audience will recognise her until she's in the studio. She is a low-maintenance celebrity to work for, because she's very self-sufficient.

I see little of her personal life because she doesn't rely on anyone to look after her children or her domestic life. The fact of working with an Afro-Caribbean woman makes me feel not exactly smug, but pleased. Norwich isn't a great ethnic capital and I think that Trisha and I are the only two black women within this building. She was in LA the other day and Whoopi Goldberg told her it was great to know that sister was doing so well.

Most of my day is spent working on shows, liaising with the producers, booking guests for the show, organising travel and bospitality and processing invoices. Like everyone in the team, I always have my eye out for stories. I will never read the

### I WORK FOR...

MONICA PATEL IS PA TO TRISHA GODDARD, PRESENTER OF THE DAYTIME ITV CHAT SHOW 'TRISHA'



Sunday papers in the same way again. I "The production side soon fascinated me,' says Monica Patel Bryn Colton get calls from people who claim to be old

also help Trisha with the enormous amount friends of Trisha's from Australia. But we of correspondence we get from viewers seeking her advice. She tries to answer every one. People relate to her own experiences, including her personal tragedies, because they are important to the way she presents. She knows about deaths and suicides and as an experienced counsellor she can take it all on board. Whoever talentspotted her knew what they were doing.

Both Trisha and her audience are genuine; there is no acting involved. We don't force people on to the show; it's always something they want to do. Trisha will talk to guests after the show and give them advice, and she also takes notes home and discusses them with her husband. Some guests have terrible life stories, which are distressing. I often wonder how Trisha deals with it. I know she drinks masses of peppermint tea to relax, and offers it to the guests. She also laughs a lot with the team; we need to see the funny side of life.

While the programme is being broadcast the phones don't stop and we have to be ready with a response because people will call about anything - from wanting to contact the guests to complaining about the colour of Trisha's shirt. We also frequently

have every respect for our viewers because these are the people we rely on. I now know that audience numbers are as important in TV as in the theatre. I also work for our editor, Sally-Ann

Howard, who is much more high-maintenance than Trisha because her work load is huge and she's in constant touch with people such as Dianne Nelmes, controller of daytime ITV. Sally-Ann and I are very close; she uses me both as a soundingboard for ideas and as a means of monitoring the morale of her staff. She's also sympathetic when you are having the odd hormonal moment. It's good to be working for so many strong women. I think I've always been confident in my abilities to work hard and succeed but I wasn't always so confident about bosses; however, working with Trisha and Sally-Ann has been a joy. I don't think Trisha would ever say that the success of the programme was solely down to her; she knows that it's about team magic. I'm off soon to explore new pastures and try out TV drama, and I'd also like to resume my work as a storyteller. But it will be a real wrench to leave. I would recommend this job to anyone.

INTERVIEW BY KATTE SAMPSON

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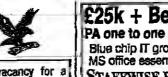
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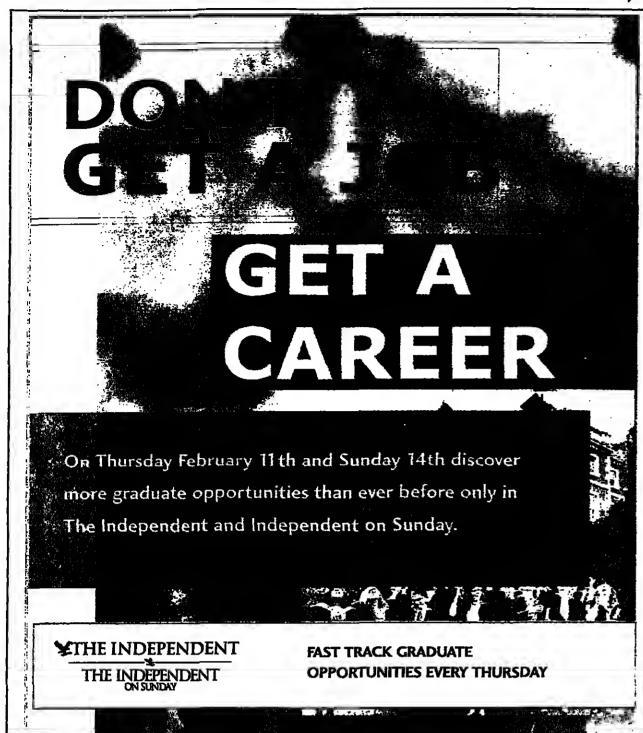
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### **NEW FILMS**

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15) Director: John Madden

Starring: Gwyneth Paltrow, Joseph Flennes See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road. Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marbie Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulhom Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

STEPMOM (12)

**Director:** Chris Columbus Starring: Susan Sarandon, Julia Roberts

Notebooks out for your authentic Mom Movie recipe. Lay a pastry of wisecracks, add tears and shrink-wrapped life lessons, then ice it all off with a dedication to the director'e own "mom". Stepmom skimps on nothing. This sugar-glazed, oven-ready affair casts an out-of-sorts Susan Sarandon as a middle-aged matriarch squabbling over her offspring with the new model mom (Julia Roberts) that hubby Ed Harris has hooked up with. The first mom gets poorly and laughter turns to tears (or at least weary resignation). Sad but true, mothers die too. Didn't your mom teach you anything?

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Daniel Stern (as the gang's most guilt-ridden Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

TWO GIRLS AND A GUY (15) Director: James Toback

Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Heather Graham James Toback's taut ménage à trois drama prowls edgily around its lone loft-space location

and probes aggressively at the psychological make-up of its three central characters. Heather Graham and Natasha Gregson Warner are the duned girifriends of Robert Downey Jr's love-rat prima donna, and Two Girls and a Guy gives them plenty of room to move and breathe, turning the resulting yarn into a pungent acting showcase. Toback's picture is essentially filmed theatre, and struggles to sustain itself throughout a feature-length running time. That said, the vibrant writing and moody atmospherics cast a considerable spell. West End: Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket. Local: Warner Village Finchley Road

**VERY BAD THINGS (18)** 

Director: Peter Serg Starring: Christian Slater, Cameron Diaz A bunch of stag-weekenders accidentally kill a Las Vegas whore, intentionally murder the security guard who rumbles the crime, then start coming anart at the seams on their arrival home. Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering, gross-out comedy in a Loaded magazine style, but it's finally a film with nowhere to go save from shrill to shriller to shrillest. More crucially, you're never quite sure whether Berg is satirising his rapacious white males or merely indulging them in their thirtysomething kicks. Virtuoso nastiness, plus some full-throttle acting from member) and Cameron Diaz (a ball-breaking fiancée) lend the mess a certain shameful alture. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Swiss. Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And

**Xan Brooks** 

### THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

#### THE FIVE BEST FILMS

The Opposite of Sex (18) Christina Ricci plays 16-year-old bitch-on-wheels Dedee, causing havoc when she moves in with her brother (Martin Donovan).

Darren Aronofsky's début (right), filmed in sooty black-and-white tells the story of a genius mathematician. This stylish indie movie

arlessly combines Wall Street, Jewish mysticism and nightmarish beadaches

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow head a multi-star cast.

The Dream Life of Angels (18) Erick Zonca's remarkable debut draws its strength from the contrasting personalities of Isa (Elodie Bouchez) and Marie (Natacha Regnier), whose friendship comes alive in Lille.

The Truman Show (PG)

Peter Weir's ingenious, unsettling fantasy is, in the eod, an escape movie - in the case of Truman Burbank (Jim Carrey), it's breaking out of the round-the-clock TV docu-soap that is his own life.

ANTHONY OUINN

### THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Colour of Justice (Tricycle Theatre) Potent re-enactment of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, coinciding with the furore surrounding the

The Street of Crocodiles (Queen's Theatre)

fate of the policemen involved in the case. To 6 Feb

Triumphant revival of Theatre de Complicite's surreal and searing plunge into the imagination of Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz. To 20 Feb

Oklahoma! (Lyceum Theatre) Widely regarded as the best ever, Trevor Numr's glorious production of the Rogers and Hammerstein classic fully deserves its West End transfer. To 26 Jun.

The Winter's Tale (RSC, 5tratford) An amazingly rich and complex performance from Antony Sher in Gregory Doran's Romanov-style production (right). In rep to 4 Mar

**Martin Guerre** (West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds) It's third time lucky for this much-rewritten musical. In Conall Morrison's starkly involving production, it finally emerges as a tighter, magnificent show. To 13 Feb

PAUL TAYLOR

#### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Monet in the 20th Century (Royal Academy)

The gardens and ponds at Giverny dissolve into elemental visions: fiery lights, haze, liquid reflections, voids and depths. The strange last works of Impressionism. To 18 Apr

Portraits by ingres (National Gallery) Some of the smartest, most intense portraiture ever (right). Men: icons of power. Women: exquisite mélanges of flesh and

fabric, dreams of sex and money. Images of triumphant bourgeois luxury. To 25 Apr Andreas Gursky (Serpentine Gallery) Photographs 1994-98: wide-vision, high-finish, micro-detailed vistas of our world - stock-exchange

floor, alpine valley - images filled with more than the eye can see. To 7 Mar

Disasters of War (Wolverhampton Art Gallery) "I saw this" - three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Visions from the blackest of times. To 20 Mar

Willie Doherty (MoMA, Oxford) "Somewhere Else": a nervy, multi-screeo video installation by this leading frish artist, reflects on sectarian terror and state security. To 4 Apr

TOM LUBBOCK

### GENERAL RELEASE

local cinemas

THE ACID HOUSE (18)

A trio of interrelated shorts culled from the stories of Irvine Welsh. Less poised and populist han Trainspotting, but more edgy and intense, oo. West End: Odeon Camden Town

ULWORTH (18)

log-tired and disillusioned at the end of a ampaign, senator Jay Bulworth (Warren eatty) turns suicidal loose cannon, lifting the d on US politics, hanging out in the 'bood and elivering his speeches in abrasive rap stylings. rude and condescending on occasion, yet envinely andacious and committed, too.

7est End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon oho, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Vhiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Varner Village West End. And local cinemas

CLASS TRIP (LA CLASSE DE NEIGE) (15) this pungent child's-eye psycho-drama switches servously between stark naturalism and lorid dream sequences

West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue Repertory: Cine Lumiere

THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGELS (18) See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's story of a woman struggling to gain purchase in a male world largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence "iumphing over cruelty.

west End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Minema, Odeon Mezzanine Repertory: The Lux Cinema, National Film Theatre, Phoenix Cinema, Riverside Studios Cinema

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse in this big, noisy and effectively claustrophobic conspiracy thriller.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensinaton, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

fark Christopher's retro-trip through the heyday f New York's Studio 54 boasts a glitterball turn om Mike Myers (as club-boss Steve Rubell) but ot a whole lot else. This is a garbled, undereveloped run-through of dance-floor chic as Ryan hillippe's colourless busboy falls in with the sautiful folk and learns the downside of life in e fast lane. Tatty stuff, all told. est End: Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Hay-

arket, Warner Village West End. Local: Danham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley II 12, UCI Surrey Quoya

ANA-BI (18)

olent yet elegiac portrait of a brutal Japanese liceman pushed over the edge. Its dreamlike de makes it strangely moving. cal: Beckenham Studio, Greenwich Cinema

LARY AND JACKIE (15)

ll-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and uly Watson sustains Anand Tucker's wartsi-all biopic of the Du Pré sisters Hilary y, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-10us cellist). Sibling rivalries, a ménage à is and terminal illness are all carefully igated by Tucker's finely-wrought direction. ugh it's as an ecting showcase that the 1 really hits home.

st End: Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema. pham Picture House, Curzon Maufair, Cur-Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Kensington, In Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, reen on the Hill. And local cinemas

ITLE VOICE (15)

led up in ber room, Jane Horrocks perfects irley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations. acing black comedy, Horrocks's vocal rotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted n from Michael Caine succeed in pushing it

ough to the final curtain. est End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon mden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon urble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West d, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin elsea, Virgin Fulham Road Repertory: Phoenix See The Independent Recommends, above. nema. And local cinemas

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

This gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder.

West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

MEET JOE BLACK (12)

Picking his way through Martin Brest's underdeveloped rehaul of Death Takes a Holiday goes Brad Pitt's aquiline Grim Reaper, who gets chaperoned round the everyday delights of planet Earth by Anthony Hopkins' dying billionaire. The film has a few neat themes and a reliably solid turn from Hopkins, but it is too much a picture of disparate pieces.

West End: Empire Leicester Square, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

MY NAME IS JOE (15)

Ken Loach's solid social-realist drama tells the tale of Joe (Peter Mullan), a recovering alcoholic torn between his old life (drugs, crime) and his new (a romance with Louise Goodall's middleclass health visitor). My Name is Joe brilliantly spotlights the groping hopes and thwarted ambitions of a Britain caught below the poverty line. West End: ABC Panton Street Local: Bedeyheath Cineworld Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. Local: Croydon Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Warner Village Finchley Road, UCI Surrey Quays

THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

The Parent Trap catches Disney cannibalising its own back catalogue, re-heating its 1961 Hayley Mills heart-warmer into a spry, cross-cultural caper starring Lindsay Lohan as the separatedat-birth twin sisters (one British, one American) determined to get their parents (Natasha Richardson, Dennis Quaid) back together.

West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Barnet Odeon, Beckenham ABC, Bexleyheath Cineworld, Bromley Odeon, Croydon Fairfield Halls, Croydon Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies. Warner Village North Finchley, Warner Village Finchley Road, Greenwich Cinema, Hampstead ABC, Holloway Odeon, Ilford Odeon, Kingston ABC Options, Peckham Premier, Putney ABC, Staples Corne Virgin, Streatham Odeon, New Stratford Picture House, Sutton UCI 6, UCI Surrey Quays, Wimbledon Odeon, Woodford ABC

π (PI) (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Curzon Soho, Repertory: Phoenix Cinema

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)

Essentially a sibling soap-opera with a dash of mumbo-jumbo, Practical Magic sees Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman cast as two mismatched sisters raised from a line of witches and hexing any unlucky man who swings into their orbit. The canny star-pairing is soon spoilt by the film's turnoil of undigested influences. West End: ABC Ponton Street, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT ((7)

In planning his cartoon life of Moses, DreamWorks honcho Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged it "painted by Claude Monet and photographed by David Lean". The end result ends up looking more like The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoot. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon

Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG) West End: Plaza, Ritzy Cinema

Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham

ABC PANTON STREET 8.20pm

CINEMA

WEST END

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) & Piccadilly Circus Harnam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) & Lekester Square/Tottenham Court Road Class Trip 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Texas Chainsaw Massacre 1.35pm, 3.55pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE 

ABC . TOTTENHAM COURT (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road Little Voice 1.25pm. 3.55pm, 7pm, 9.40pm x (Pf) 1.20pm, 3.25pm, 5.25pm, 7.30pm, 9.35pm Shakespeare in

Love 1.05pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) & Barbkan Hilary and Jackle 6pm. 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 6pm,

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square Hilary and Jackie 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

8.40pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Bulworth 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Hitary and Jackie 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Shakespeare In Love 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm,

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) ⊕ Green Park Hilary and Jackle 1pm, 3.30pm,

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Elizabeth Comer/Knightsbridge 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm CURZON SOHO

(0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm))
O Leicester Square/Tottenham
Court Road Bulworth 1.45pm,
4.15pm, 9pm Hilary and Jackie
1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm a
(PI) 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.45pm,
7.30pm, 9.30pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) — Leicester Square Meet Joe Black 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.20pm The Prince of Egypt 3.15pm, 6pm, 8pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) © Notting Hill Gate Hillary and Jeckie 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm

(0171-734 1506) O Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square The Apple (Sib) 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Dobermann 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm NOTTING HILL CORONET

(0171-727 6705) ← Notting Hill Gate Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

ODEON CANDEN TOWN
(08705-050007) & Carnden Town
54 April, 8.45pm Dobermann
1.25pm, 6.15pm Little Wolce
11.55am, 2.05pm, 4.25pm,
6.45pm, 8.55pm Shakespeare In
Love 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.45pm,
8.35pm Stepmorn 12.25pm,
8.35pm Stepmorn 12.25pm,
8.30pm Stepmorn 12.25pm,
8.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.30pm Very
Bad Things 12.05pm, 2.10pm,
4.30pm, 6.35pm, 9.05pm

4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm, Stepmom 12.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.25pm, 9.25pm

ODGON LEICESTER SOUARE 

ODEON MARBLE ARCH ODEON MARRILE ARCH
(08705-050007) 

Marble Arch
Enemy of The State 12.20pm,
3.10pm, 6.05pm, 9pm Little
Voice 1.40pm, 6.40pm Practical
Magic 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.30pm,
9.05pm Shakespeare In Love
12.35pm, 3.25pm, 8.15pm,
9.10pm The Siege 3.50pm,
8.55pm Stepmoon 12.30pm,
4.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm 4.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm

Smoking Barrels 1,25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Mask of Zorro 2.35pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm There's Something About Mary 12,45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm,

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE ODEON SWISS COTTAGE
(08705-050007) ◆ Swiss Cottage
Hilary and Jackie 12.20pm, 3pm,
5.35pm, 8.15pm Little Wolce
1.45pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm
Practical Magic 1pm, 3.30pm,
6pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare In
Love 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm,
8.35pm Stepmom 12.05pm,
2.45pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm Very
Bad Things 12.45pm, 3.05pm,
6om, 8.45pm 6pm, 8.45pm

ODEON WEST END (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Little Voice 1,55pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.55pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) & Piccadilly Circus Everest 9.05pm L5 (IMAX) 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 7pm T-Rex Back to the Cretacoous (3-D) (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm,

0990-888990) & Piccadilly Circus
Babe: Pig in the City 12.40pm
Saving Private Ryan 3pm,
7.30pm Star Treic Insurrection
1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm RENOIR

(0171-837 8402) Square. The Apple (Sib) 1pm, 2.55pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Hilary and Jackle 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

RITZY CINEMA
(0171-733 2229) BR/G, Brixton
Angel Stiarks (Marie Baie des
Anges) 3.15pm Bulworth 5pm,
7.20pm, 9.35pm Hillary and
Jackle 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.05pm
Little Volce 3pm, 5.15pm,
7.25pm, 9.30pm The Opposite of
Sex 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm,
9.20pm (+ Short: Horseshoe)
Shakespeare in Love 2pm,
4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm RITZY CINEMA

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) ⊕ Baker Street Tile Opposite of Sex 2,40pm, 4,50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare In Love 3.10pm, 6.25pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) & Highbury & Isilngton Shakespeare in Love 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Hillary and Jackie 3.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm UCI WHITELEYS

UCI WITITELEYS
(60 34567) 

General State of St

VIRGIN CHELSEA VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) © South Kensington Bulworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm, Little Voice 12.45pm, 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm The Siege 8.50pm Stepmom 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Very Bad Things 1pm, 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm 3.15pm, 6pm Meet Joe Black 8.40pm The Opposite of Sex 12.40pm, 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm

Practical Magic 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Shakespeare In Love 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm Neo Giris and e Guy 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9.15pm

VERGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) & Piccadilly Circus 54 2.10pm. 4.20pm. 6.30pm, 8.45pm Bulworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm. 8.35pm Two Girls and a Guy 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.55pm

VERGIN TROCADERO (0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus (0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus Enemy of the State 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 12.30pm, 4.20pm, 8pm Out of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Practical Magic 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Lowe 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.45pm StarTireic Insurrection 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm Very Bad Things 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.0m 6.40pm, 9pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square 54 9.20pm Bulworth 1pm. 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm, 9.20pm, 6.30pm The Opposite of Sex 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm A Perfect Murder 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm Practical Magic 12roon, 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.20pm (+ Short: Eight) Rush Hour 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm, Very Bad Things 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Whet Dreams May Come 1.10pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm,

<u>CINEMA</u> LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) O Park Royal Bul-worth 9.05pm Enemy of the State 1.35pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.50pm Little Volce 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Meet Joe Black 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm Practical Magic 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.55pm The Siege 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 10pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.30pm, 3.50pm,6.30pm Stepmon 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Very Bad Things 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm (0181-896 0066) + Park Royal Bul-

BARNET ODEON (08705 050007) & High Barnet Little Voice 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 7pm, 9pm Practical Mag-ic 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm

ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Enemy of the State 2pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm Practical Magic 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm

BEXLEVHEATH BEXILEYHEATH
CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR
Bedeyheath Bulworth 9.15pm En-emy of the State 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm. 9.30pm Little Volce 12.10pm. 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.25pm The Mask of Zorro 2.45pm, 6pm Meet Joe Black 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm My Name is Joe 1pm, 4pm, 7pm Practical Magic 12.35pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 12.35pm, 2.30pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Siege 12.10pm, 8.45pm Stepmom 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm Very Bad Things 12.40pm, 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.35pm, 9.55pm

EROMLEY ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Lit-de Voice 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 8.05pm Practical Magic 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, a.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Stepmom 12.15pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm

ABC (01 a1-698 3306) BR: Catford ractical Magic 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 1.45pm Very Bad Things 2.30pm, 6pm. 8.40pm

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: West/East Croydon Dancing at Luginasa 6.15pm The Land Girls 3.50pm Left Luggage 8.30pm

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon Hum Aapke Dis Mein Rehte Hain phone for times Hu Tu Tu phone for times Meet Joe Black 5:30pm, a.40pm The Slege 5:40pm, 8.15pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-690 8090) BR: East Croydon Enemy of the State 3.35pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm,

9.10pm Meet Joe Black 8.30pm The Op-posite of Sex 4.40pm, 9.50pm Practical Magic 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Stege 1.40pm, 7.10pm Star Trek: Insur-rection 3.40pm, 6.10pm Stepmom 3.25pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Very Bad Things 2pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway 54 10pm Bulworth 7.20pm Enemy of the State 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Little Voice 2,10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Meet Jor Black 2pm, 5.30pm, 9.10pm Practical Magic 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Siege 5pm, 9.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 3pm, 5.20pm, 7.40pm Stepmom 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.55pm Very Bad Things 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9pm

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/+ Ealing Broadway Practical Magic 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Stepmom 2.30pm, 5.30pm,

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) + Edgware AA AB Laut Chalain phone for times Bade Dilwala phone for times Ruch Ruch Hota Hai phone for times Meet Joe Black 4.30pm, 7.50pm The Prince of Egypt 2.30pm Zakhm phone for

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UC! 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale AA AB Laut Chalain 4.15pm, 8.10pm Bul-Laut Chaian 4.15pm, 8.10pm buy-worth 10pm Enemy of the State 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Little Voice 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.45pm The Mask of Zorro 3.10pm, 6.45pm Meet Joe Black 4.40pm, 8.25pm The Opposite of Sex 3pm, 5.45pm. 8.05 pm Practical Magic 4.25pm. 7pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 10.05pm Shakespeare in Love 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Slege 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Star Trek Insurrection 4.55pm, 7.20pm Stepmom 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm, Very Bad Things 4.45pm,7.10pm,

ELEPHANT & CASTLE
CORONET (0171-703 4968) &
Elephant & Castle Bulworth
3,45pm, 6pm, 8,35pm Enemy of
The State 3pm, 5,45pm, 8,20pm
Very Bad Things 3,55pm, 6,15pm,
8,45pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-

867 0555) BR: Feitham AA AB Laut. Chalain 11.55am, 3.30pm, 7.30pm Bulworth 7pm Enemy of the State 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Hum Aapke Hain Koum... 11.15em, 1pm, 2.45pm, 4.35pm, 6.20pm, 8.05pm, 9.45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 12noon, 3.30pm, 9.30pm, 6pm Little Voice 12noon, 2.25pm Little Voice 12noon, 2.25pm.
4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm The
Mask of Zorro 12noon, 6.10pm
Meet Joe Black 1.05pm, 4.20pm,
7.50pm The Opposite of Sex
11.30am, 2.10pm, 4.50pm,
7.15pm, 9.50pm Practical Magic
11.35am, 2pm, 4.25pm, 7pm,
8.20pm 5hakespeare in Love
1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm
The Slege 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm,
7pm, 9.30pm Stepmonn 1.45pm,
4.30pm, 6.55pm, 9.40pm Very
Bad Things 11.20am, 2.05pm,
4.45pm, 7.20pm, 9.55pm Zakhm
2.50pm, 9pm NORTH FINCHLEY

WARNER VILLAGE (0121-446 9344) & East Finchley/Finchley Central Butworth 3.40pm, 9.30pm Enemy of the State 3pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Little Voice 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm Meet Joe Black 4.35pm, 2.20pm Practical Magic 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Stege 1pm, 6.15pm Stepmom 1.40pm, 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446

FINCHLEY ROAD FINCHLEY ROAD
WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604
3110) & Finchley Road Balworth
1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm
Enemy of the 5tate 4.30pm,
9.50pm Little Volce 11.30am, 2pm,
7.30pm The Opposite of Sex,
1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Practical Magic 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm,
9.30pm Shakespeare in Love
12noon, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 4.30pm
Stepmon 12.15pm, 3om, 5.45pm, m 12.15cm, 3cm, 5.45cm seppnom 12:15pm, 3pm, 5:45pm, 8,45pm Two Girls and e Guy 1.10pm, 3:10pm, 5:20pm, 7:40pm, 10pm Very Bad Things 12noon, 2:20pm, 4:40pm, 7pm, 9:20pm

ABC (0181-455 1724) ← Golders Green Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Bulworth 9.45pm Hilary end Jackie 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm Little Voice 4.55pm, 7pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) & Belsize Park Little Voice 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 2.35pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm Very Bad Things 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

HAMMERSMITH HAMMERSMITH
VIRGIN (0870-9070718) & Hammersmith Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Practical Magic 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 6.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Steppisom 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) Harrow on the Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Hum Aapke Hain Koun... 8.45pm Hu Tu Tu 8.45pm

WARNER -VILLAGE - (0181-427 WARNER - VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) & Harrow on the Hill Bul-worth 4.25pm, 9.40pm Enemy of the State 10.15am, 12.55pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Meet Joe Black 12.40pm, 4.20pm, 8.10pm The Opposite of Sex 11.50am, 2.10pm 4.30pm, 6.55pm, 9.20pm Practical Magic 11.30am, 2.10pm 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm 5hakespeare in Love 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Siege 1.50pm, 7.10pm Step-mom 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 11.40em,

2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm

HOLLOWAY HOLLOWAY
ODEON (08705 050007) & Holloway Road/Archway Bulworth, 3.45pm, 8.50pm Enemy of the State 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Little Voice 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm Meet Joe Black 12.30pm, 4.05pm, 7.40pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Shakespeare In Love 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm The Slege 1.15pm, 6.20pm 8.35pm The Slege 1.15pm, 6.20pm Steppnom 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Very Bad Things 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm

ILFORD ODEON (08705 050007) Gants Hill Little Voice 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Practical Magic 1.05pm, 3.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Stepmom 12ncon, 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 9pm

KILBURN THE TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn Bulworth 6.30pm, 8.45pm

KINGSTON UPON THAMES
ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR:
Kingston Meet Joe Black 2.15pm,
7.15pm Practical Magic 2.25pm,
6.05pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in
Love 2.10pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm

ODEON (08705 050007) & High-

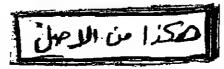
Grant (18705 050007) 6 High-gate Practical Magic 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Shake-speare in Love 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Stepmon 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peddam Rye Buhworth 9.50pm En-emy of the State 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 9.05pm Little Voice 4pm, 6pm, 8pm Practical Magic 2.30pm, 4.45pm; 7.15pm, 9.30pm Shajkespeare in

Love 3,40pm, 6,20pm, 9pm The Slege 4,45pm, 7,15pm, 8,30pm Very Bad Things 4,50pm, 7,05pm, 9,25pm PURI EY PURLEY
ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley
Little Voice 6.10pm, 8.30pm Meet
Joe Black 7.10pm Very Bad Things
5.40pm, 8.10pm

PUTNEY PUTNEY
ABC (0870 9020401) Bit Putney/6Putney Bridge Little Voice 1.15pm,
3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Practical
Magic 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.05pm,
8.25pm Shakespeare in Love
2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/G-Richmond Little Voice 2pm. 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmont 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

**ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007)** BR/O-Richmond Bulworth 2.10pm, 6pm Hilary and Jackle 12.30pm, 3.20pm; 6.10pm, 9pm Meet Joe Black 8.20pm Practical Magic 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Very Bad Things 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm



RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/Ø-Richmond Little Volce 2pm. 4.20pm, /pm. 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Stepmorn 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) BR/O Richmond Bulworth 2.10pm, 6pm Hilary And Jackle 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Meet Joe Black 8.20pm Practical Magic 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Very Bad Things 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020418) BR: Romford Practical Magic 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm The Siege 2.25pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Very Bad Things 2.15pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm

OPEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007 BR: Romford Enemy of the State 3pm. 8.20pm Little Volce 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Mask of Zorro 12.15pm, 5.40pm Meet Joe Black 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.30pm Practical Magic 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm The Slege 3.45pm, 8.40pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.30pm, 6.30pm Stepmom 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm Very Bad Things 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm

SIDCUP ABC (0541-5551 31) BR: Sidcup Lit-tle Voice 6.15pm, 8.45pm Very Bad Things 6pm, 8.40pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Enemy Of the State 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm Little 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm Little Voice 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare In Love 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm The Stege 9.20pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Very Bad Things 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Antz 5.45pm Meet Joe Black 2.10pm, 7.35pm Psycho 8.55pm Shakespeare In Love 2,25pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm Star Trek: Insurrection 2.15pm, 4.30pm,

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Streatham Hill/ Brotton/Clapham Common Bulworth 6.10pm Enemy of the State 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 8.25pm Little Voice 1,20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm Practical Magic 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 12.20pm, 3pm, 40pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8,30pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East Bulworth 6.50pm Practical Magic 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 9pm Shakespeare in Love 12.55pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8,45pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 4pm, 9.10pm

SURREY OUAYS UCI (0990 888990) & Surrey Quays Bulworth 7pm Enemy of the State 3.30pm, 9.40pm Little Voice 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Meet Joe Black 4.45pm, 8.25pm The Opposite of Sex 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Practical Magic 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm The Siege 9,40pm Stepmom 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm Twilight 4.10pm. 6.40pm Very Bad Things 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.55pm

SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: 5utton/O Morden Enemy of the State 6.45pm, 9.30pm Little Volce 4.10pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm The Par-ent Trap 3.55pm Practical Magic 3.25pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 3.40pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.40pm Stepmom 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Twilight 7pm Very Bad Things 7.15pm, 9.50pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) + Tumpike Lane Bulworth 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.35pm The Siege 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm **UXBRIDGE** 

ODEON (08705 050007) & Uxbridge Practical Magic 1.50pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm 5tepmom 1.40pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm WOTEMAHTLIAW

ABC (0870-9020424) Waltham-4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 2.10pm, 7.20pm Very Bad Things 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.05pm,

**WALTON ON THAMES** THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm 5tepmom 5.45pm, 8.15pm 5 to 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm

CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Meet Joe Black 3.45pm, 7.25pm Shakespeare in Love 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) & Willesden Green Meet Joe Black 4.45pm, 8.15pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O **ODEON LOCHMEADOW (08705-**050007): Antz (PG): Dr Dollttle (PG): Enemy of the 5tate (15); Lit-tle Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro Wimbledon/ South Wi Enemy of the 5tate 2.10pm, 8.20pm Little Voice 2.05pm, (PG); Meet Joe Black (12); Mulan (U): Practical Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U): Shakespeare in Love (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Scar Trek: Insurrection (PG): 5 tep-4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Meet Jos 4.15pm, 0.30pm, 8.45pm Meet Joe Black 4.55pm Practical Magic 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm 5hakespeare in Love 12.20pm, 2.55pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Stepmom 2.30pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm mom (12); Velvet Gold Very Bad Things (18(

ABC (0181-989 3463) + South ABC GEORGE STREET (0541ford Little Voice 2.10pm. 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Shake-speare in Love 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Very Bad Things 1.55pm, 550501): Enemy of the State (15); Meet Joe Black (12(: Mulan (15); Meet Joe Black (12(: Musan (U(: The Parent Trap (PG): Practi-cal Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Very Bad Things (18) 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pr

CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: ABC MAGDALEN STREET (0541-550509(; Antz (PG); Shakespeare In Love (15( Woolwich Arsenal Little Voice

4.15pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Practical Magic 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm **WOOD GREEN** PHOENIX PICTURE HOUSE (1865-554909); The Blue Kite (15): Bulworth (18): Cyclo (18); Double Indemnity (PG); Eraserhead (18): Hana-Bl (18): T [Pi] (15): Ponette (15): Primary-Colors (15): The Secret Garden (U): Sitcom (18): Snake Eyes (15); A World Apart (15)

NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) & Tumpike Lane AA AB Laut Chalain 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.45pm

**CINEMA** REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place, SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Classe de Nelge (Class Trip) (NC) 6.30pm A La Campagne (NC) 8.30pm ICA CINEMA The Mail, SW1 (0171-930 3647) Puta Miseria (NC) 5pm, 9pm La Rubla del Bar (NC) 7pm The Polygraph (NC) 8.30pm

Ticket availability details are for to-NFT South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 day, times and prices for the weeks running times include intervals. 3232) Elizabeth (15) 2.30pm Like 3232) Elizabeth [15] 2.30pm Line a Bird on a Wire/Germany in Autumn: Fassbinder (NC) 6.15pm Scaramouche (NC) 6.30pm OSS, 5pycatcher and Espionage: Television (NC) 7.30pm Mother Rusters Goes to Heaven: Fassbinder (NC) — Seats at all prices I — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1(: 5un, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed. (5]: Thur, [6]: Fri. (7]: Sat I ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS 8.30pm Tranceformer: a Portrait of Lars Von Trier (NC) 8.45pm (+ Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted

by mysterious messages stars Fe licity Kendal and Josie Lawrence

DAMADEUS David Suchet stars as

drama. Old Vic The Cut. SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/+ Wa-

● ANNE Rags to riches story of the

7.30pm, [4([7( 2.30pm, (1( 4pm, £7.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

DART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's com-

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-

88001 Covent Garden/Charing X.

Shakespeare Company's keenly-paced theatrical history lesson. Cri-

O Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, £10, concs

• GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film about life in an Amer-

ican high school Cambridge Earlham

Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm,

[4][7] 3pm, £10-£30. 150 mins.

) AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo

pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production

of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5045) &

Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£29.50. 165

**DAN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen** 

8pm, £6-£25. 120 mlns.

es. 160 mins.

Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acciai

views). 130 mins.

PHOENIX High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) Little Voice [15) 2,15pm, 6.45pm x [Pi] (15) 4.30pm, 9pm PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place, WC2 (0171-4378181( Henry Fool [18) 1pm Snake Eyes [15] 4pm Lethal Weapon 4 (15) 6.15pm The Wedding Singer [12] 8pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Kolya (Kol-ja) (12) 6.45pm + II Postino

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) On Connait la Cha (PG) 4.45pm, 9pm My Name is Joe (15) 7pm

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01 273-602503) Two Girls and a Guy (18) 2.30pm, 6.45pm, Wed 6.45pm The Oppo-site of Sex (18) 4.30pm, 8.45pm

BRISTOL CUBE (0114-9074191) Year of the Horse (15) 8.30pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) 6pm Mandragora (NC) 6.05pm Fire (15( 8.30pm x (Pil [15( 8.40pm ARTS (01223-504444) The Oppo-

site of Sex (18) 1.15pm, 9.30pm  $\pi$  (Pi) (15) 3.30pm, 7.30pm The Battleship Potemkin (PG) 5pm CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Bulworth (18) 7.30pm Lit-tle Voice (15) 8pm

NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) Little Voice (15) 2,15pm, 6.45pm Rush Hour (15) 4,30pm Funny Games (18) 9pm

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Rien Ne Va Pius (15) 2,30pm, 5,45pm A Soldier's Daughter Nev-er Cries (15) 8,15pm

### **CINEMA** COUNTRYWIDE

BATH ABC CINEMA (01225-461730); Shakespeare in Love (15)

LITTLE THEATRE (01225-466822); Babe: Pig in the City (U): Bulworth (18); Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG)

ROBINS CINEMA (01225-461506); Practical Magic (12); 5tepmom (12); The Swan Princess (U); Two Girls and a Guy (18)

CAMBRIDGE WARNER VILLAGE (01223-460442); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Bulworth (18); Enemy of the State (15); Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Meet Joe Black (12); The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); surrection (PG); Stepmom (12); Very Bad Things (18)

COLCHESTER ODEON (08705-050007]; Antz (PG); Dr Dolittle (PG); Enemy of the 5tate (15); The Exercist (25th Anniversary Rerelease] (18); Lit-tic Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro et Joe Black (12); Mula (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U); Psycho (15); Rush Hour (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Star Trek: In-

SILVER SCREEN (01304-228000); Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Prince of Egypt (U): The Siege (15)

surrection (PG); Stepmom (12)

ABC(01432-272554); Little Voice (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG) THE COURTYARD (01 432-359252);

ULTIMATE PICTURE PALACE (01865-245288); The Charge of the Light Brigade (NC); The Exorcist II - the Heretic (18); Lock, Stock

& Two Smoking Barrels (18); My Name is Joe (15); The Truman

Show (PG)

Daktry's widely-acciaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller: Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £12-£29.50, 110 mins. INTO THE WOODS Sondheim IPSWICH VIRGIN CINEMA (0870-9070748); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Enemy of the State (15); Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on fairytales. Donmar Warehouse Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4[7] 2.30pm, £15-£27.50.

Voice (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Meet Joe Black (12): The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Shakespeare In Love (15): The Slege (15); The Soldler (Asian Film) (15): Star Treic Insurrection (PG): Stepmom (12): Very Bad Things (18): Who Framed Roger Rabblt? (PG) THE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom Stoppard's play about the life of po-et A E Houseman, author of The Shropshire Lad. Theatre Royel, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4([7( 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. ABC CINEMA (0870-9020405): Little Voice (15); Meet Joe Black (12): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15)

• RESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christmas show. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm & 8pm, [1) 3pm, ends 6 Feb, £5.50-£1 8.50.

 KAFKA'S DICK Eric Sykes and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Ben-nett's comedy about the moribund write: Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. In rep, tonight 8pm, ends 26 Feb, £12-£30.

ILITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Hal-Jawell's drama. Comedy Panton Street, SWI (0171-368 1731( & Picc Circ/Lelc Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5([7( 3pm, ends 13 Mar, £7-£27.50.

D LORD OF THE FLIES Stage ver-sion of William Golding's classic tale of schoolboys living m a deserted is-land. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 0 (0181-741 2311) © Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 6 Feb, £5-£16.

THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Julia Sawalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral. Vaudeville 5trand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-[5][7( 3pm, £8-£27.50. X. Mon-Sat 8pi

) LES MISERABLES Musical YOUNG VIC STUDIO Play-boy desperate optimists' latest offering looking at the attraction of violence. transisation of Victor Bugo's mas-terpiece Palace Staftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7( 2.30pm. £7-£35. 195 mins. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, ends 6 Feb. £8, concs £6. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928

MISS SAIGON Musical which re-sets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-THEATRE 494 5060) O Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (4([7] 3pm, £5.75-£35. 165 mins.

• THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodumit, St Ma West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) • Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. (3) 2.45pm, [7] 5pm. £10-£24.50. 135

DOKLAHOMA! Maureen Linnar stars in the National's acclaimed production of Rodgers and Rammer-stein's cowboy v farmhand musical. Lyceum Wellington Street, WQ Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5([7( 3pm, £19.50-£27.50 £12.50-£17.50 (restricted June, £10-£35.

:) THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothle musical. Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) & Picc Crc. Mon-Sat terioo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins. 7.45pm. [4[[7] 3pm, £10-£35. 150

optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317( BR/⊕ Victoria. Tue-5at D RENT Musical inspired by La Bohame and set in modern day New York Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 [07000-211221] ⊕ Holbom/fort Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4([7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins.

PRICHARD III Robert Lindsay stars

as the historical villain. Savoy Strand.

ody about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111( ← Lec Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7][1(5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins. WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50. ish family musical based on Disney's carton version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) © Tott ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE DOLIVIER: Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller, in rep, tonight 7,15pm, ends

Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5([7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins. • BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama about twins who are DLYTTELTON: The Forest Alan Ayourn's new version of Ostrovsky' separated at birth. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WCZ (0171-369 1733) • Lek Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-£32.50, 165 mins. black social satire stars Frances de to a Tour. In rep, roday 2,15pm & 7,30pm. Olivier & Lymelton: 58-527. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000), @/BR; Wa-

 BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly.
 Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 ROYAL SHARESPEARE COMPANY OTHE BARBICAN: The Merchant Of Venice RSC production of Shake-speare's drame about love and mon-ey. In rep., tonight 7.15pm, ends 9 Mar. 180 mins. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £10-£27, half price Friday

O THE PIT: Shadows: Riders To The Sez & The Shadow of The Glen b CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Gar-WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep. tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Mar. Barbican Theatre: £5-£27. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, £C2 den/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3([7(3pm, £12.50-£35, 165 mins. (0171-638 8891). O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broad-O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit

way musical about two murderous women and their nightclub act. Adel-1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring women and their ingititin act. Adel-phi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, (4)[7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee), 130 mins. Adam Garcia, London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) ← Oxford Circus, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (4([7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 • THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced • STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-

cal. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road.

terion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) • Picc Circ. Tue SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Vic-toria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3](7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins. DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield THE STREET OF CROCODILES Bruno Scultz's short stories provide the inspiration for Theatre de Com-plicite's acclaimed and absurdist talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henippets, London Apollo Ham-nith Queen Caroline Street, W6 9 (0171-416 6022) Hammer-

pucate's accianned and absorping drama, Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ, Tue-Sat 8pm, [7) 3pm, [1] 5pm, ends 20 Feb, £6-£25. smith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4)[7] 2.30pm, £10-£32,50, 150 mins. THE GLORY OF LIVING Drama D VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downset amongst the trailer parks of southern America from new play-Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) + Le-Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ic 5q. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of Court bownstairs (at the blike Or York's) 5t Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ♦ Lelc Sq/Char-ing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4)(7) 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mins.

west side story Brand new production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) ◆ Leic Sq/Plcc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5([7( 3pm, £18.50-£35. 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus, Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5([7( 3pm, £10-£32.50.

• THE WOMAN IN BLACK SUsan Hill's chilling ghost story Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covent Gar-den/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3) 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110

### THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

**ALIMEIDA THEATRE Certain Young** Men Peter Gill's comedy of con-temporary manners looks at the lity and the modern man. Mon Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 3pm, ends 20 Feb. £9.50-£18.50, concs available. Almeida Street, NI (0171-359

ARTS THEATRE Krapp's Last Tape Edward Petherbridge performs Samuel Beckett's melancholic piece. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Fri & Sat 5.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £11-£15. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334/cc 741 9999( & Leices-

BUSH THEATRE In Flame New dra-ma for the Bridget Jones generation. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 6 Feb. £10, concs £7. Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) ◆ Shep-

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON The Vagina Monologues Eve Ensier performs ber own aciaimed off-Broadway hit. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 6 Mar. £12-£13. Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1816) & Angel/Highbury & Islington

TRECYCLE THEATRE: The Colour of Justice Dramatisation of the Stephen Lawrence case, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm, mat Wed 2pm, ends 6 Feb. £8-£13.50, concs available. Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000) ◆ Kilburn.

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

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AWAY FROM THE successful TV improvisation show Whose Line is it Assesses? Greg Preens (right) grabs the limelight and emberies upon a UK tour this spring. The soung American unlesses his starp quick wit in his show He's One Plue Blick where, true to form, he spouts political incorrectness like it's going out of fashion. Tickets are selling fast.

The Junction, Combridge (\$1223 511511) 21 Apr. The Gantry, Southampton (61703 225019 23 Apr., The Bristol Bierkellar, Bristol (6117-826 8510 28 Apr., The Arts Centre, Swindon (01793 614837) 29 Apr.

IN A SPECIACULAR display of drama and pounding music The Drammers of Burundi come to the UK as part of an international tear. They spirit about the stage in synchronised tribal style, expressing their rhythmic message on bollow log drums. The ritinal, halled as a national symbol of Burandi's musical tradition, is inspiring for audiences of all cultures.

Corn Exchange, Cambridge (01223 357851) 8 Feb: The Hexagon, Reading (0118-960 6060) 9 Feb; Royal Festival Hall, London SEI (0171-960 4242) 10 Peb; Colston Hall, Bristol (0117-922 3883) 9 Mar

**EXHIBITIONS** THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Corpse Ian Targett and Ian Lindsay star in Gerlad Moon's high-camp comedy thriller about a penn contrives to murder his wealthy twite and assume his lifestyle. Mon-Thus & Sat 7.45pm, Fri 6pm & 9pm, mat Wed 3pm, ends 6 Feb. £9.50-

(01256-465566) CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE Black Dablia Chilling psychological thriller by the author of LA Confidential. Contains shocking scenes. Tue-Fra 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, ends 6 Feb. £5.50-£15 Regent 5treet (01242-572573)

£15.50 concs available 'Mote Street

CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Abigall's Party Steven Pinder (Brookside's Max Farnham: stars in Mike Leigh's comedy about social niceties in 1970s suburbia. Tue-Sat 7,30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2,30pm, ends 6 Feb. £6.50-£21, Oaklands

Park (01243-781312) EXETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE Persuasion Adaptation of Jane Austen's last novel. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, mat Wed 1.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £7-£15, concs available Stocker Road (01392-493493)

LEICESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE Singin' in the Rain High water mark of American musicals. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. E7-£19.50 Belgrave Gate (0116-253

MALVERN MALVERN FESTIVAL THEATRE The Gin Game Frith Banbury directs Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin in this sensitive and funny drama which centres around a lengthy game of Gin Rummy, Mon-Sat Sprin, mat Sat 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £10-£14, concs available Grange Road (01684-

MILFORD HAVEN TORCH THEATRE The Woman in Black Chilling story of haunting and evil with a twist. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £8. concs £5 St Pe ters Road (01646-695267)

NORWICH MADDERMARKET THEATRE Woman in Mind One of Avekbourn's blacker comedies about a woman who suffers delusions after being hi on the head by a garden rake. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £4-£6.50

THEATRE ROYAL Sleuth Peter Bowles and Michael Maloney star in Anthony Shaffer's ingenious and in-ventive thriller. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mat Wed 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £3-£15.50, concs available Theatre 5treet (01603-630000)

PETERBOROUGH KEY THEATRE Wildest Dreams Alan Ayckbourn's comedy about four misfits playing a type of Dungeons-and-Dragons game in a suburban liv-ing room. Wed-Sat 7.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £7-£8.50, concs available Emkment Road (01733-552439)

POOLE ARTS CENTRE And The There Were None Agatha Christie's whodumnit set in a lonely house on remote island. Mon-Sat 7.45pr mat Wed 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £7.50-£11.50 Kingland Road

SOUTHAMPTON MAYFLOWER THEATRE Goldfocks and the Three Bears Frank Bruno, Karl Howman and Emily Symons in this star-studded panto. Tonight 7pm, ends Feb 14. £7.50-£17.50, (01703-711811)

GORDON CRAIG THEATRE ON the Razzle Tem Stoppard's farce is set in 1850's Vienna. Mon-Fri 7.45pm Sat 8pm, mat Thur 1.30pm, ends 5 Feb. £10.50-£12.50, concs available Lytton Way (01438-766866)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of
obsessive jealousy, directed by Gregory Doran. Tonight 7.30pm. ends
4 Mar. £7-£30 Waterside (01789-295623)

SWAN THEATRE A Month in the SWAN THEATRE A Month in the Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenborough directs. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30 Waterside (01789-

WATFORD PALACE THEATRE Darkness Falls Double bill of sinister drama from Jooathan Holloway. Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £4-£15.75 Clarendon Road (01923-2256711

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Women on the Verge of HRT Two forty-something women discuss their situation in life, Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £5.50-£14.50, concs avail-able London Road (01702-342564) 552055) CLASSICAL

erighton Brighton Museum and Art GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's largely figurative paintings. Mon, Tue & Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pmnon ends 28 Mar free Church Street (01273-290900)

BRUTON BRUTON GALLERY Forming the Figure Including works by Rodin and Henry Moore. Mon-Fri 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm, ends 20 Mar, free, Stock-well House, Bruton High Street (01749-81 2205)

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM The Society of Three: Whistler, Fantin-Latour and Alphonse Legros
Exhibition of drawing and prints examining the common stylistic ground
of the three artists. Tue-Sat 10am5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 14
Feb, free. Trumpington 5treet
(01223.332900) (01223-332900)

KETTLE'S YARD Physical Evidence Innovative paintings, drawings, sculpture and video. Tue-5at 12.30pm-5.30pm, Sun 2pm-5.30pm, ends 28 Feb, free. Castle Street (01223-352124(

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic View Images from sub-Sarahan Africa. ages from sub-Sarahan Africa, PICASSO AND PHOTOGRAPHY: THE DARK MURROR More than 300 works explore the Spanish master's relationship with photography. Mon, Thur-Sat 10am-6,45pm, Iue 10am-5,45pm, Wed 10am-7,45pm; Sun 12noon-6,45pm, ends 29 Mar. £6, concs £4, from Mon-Fri £3 after 500 Mills 10 Mills 1 Spm. Silk Street. EC2 (0171-638 4141] O Barbican/Moorgate.

**DESIGN MUSEUM Modern Britain** 1927-1939 A study on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth, Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm, ends 18 Jul, £5.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames, 5E1 (0171-378 6055) & Tower Hill/DLR: Tower Gateway.

NATIONAL GALLERY in the Light of Fra Angelico: Zanobi Strozzi Study exhibition exploring the paintings of the 15th-century artist. Ends 7 Mar, free.

Portraits by Ingres Major exhibi-tion of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6. concs £4. Wed 7pm-10pm £4. Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-747 ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

Monet in the 20th Century Eighty paintings made in the 26 years after painings made in the 26 years after 1900. Mon-Thur, 5un 9am-6pm, Fri 45 Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadilly, WI (0171-413 1717) ⊕ Green Park. TATE GALLERY Turner in the Alps

Works on paper made on Turner's first Alpine trip in 1802. Ends 14 Feb. In Celebration: The Art of the Country House including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein, Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 28 Feb, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Picasso's Ladies: Wendy Ramshaw Precious-metal jewellery. Ends 15

Elsewhere - Photographs from the Americas and Asia: Henri Cartier-Bresson Subjects by the 90 year-old photographer. Ends 12 Apr. Silver and Syrup: A Selection from the Collection Work by leading photographers. Mon-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 31 Jul. £5, concs £3, under 18s/UB40/disabled/mems/af ter 4.30pm free. Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) & South

COCFORD SHMOLEAN MUSEUM Chinese ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Chinese Silks Brightly coloured 18th and 19th century hangings. Ends 28 Feb. Nineteenth Century French Drawings Recent acquisitions alongside familiar major drawings. Ends 28 Feb. The Painterly Brush Oil sketches dating from the 16th to the early 20th century. The Sar 10 am. Ann. Support century. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 21 Mar, free. Beau-mont Street (01865-278000)

PENZANCE NEWLYN ART GALLERY Bob Law Influential artist's drawings, paint-ings and sculpture. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 6 Feb, donation. New Road (01735-363715(

ST IVES
ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century, and a selection of contemporary work Cucit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

MOLVERHAMPTON WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY Disasters of War: Callot, Goya, Dix Selections from three artists' war etchings. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 20 Mar, free. Lichfield Street (01902-

BRISTOL ST GEORGE'S BRANDON HILL Borodin String Quarteet String quartets by Tehnikovsky and Brahms. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£12, Brandon Hill (0117-923 0359)

ST JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE John Hoyland Piano recital including Schu-mann and Brahms. Tonight 7,30pm £6-£10. Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061) Westmir

PURCELL ROOM ROSL Prizewin ners Concert From the percussion ensemble Backbeat and pinno duo Jennifer Micallef and Glen Inanga. Tonight 7.30pm, £8 & £10, concs £6. South Bank, 5£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Philiparmonla/Dutoit Poulenc's Double Pi-ano Coocerto with Ravel's 2nd Daphnis and Chloe Suite. Tonight 7.30pm. E5-E30. South Bank. SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR @ Waterloo.

**OPERA** 

MAY FAIR THEATRE Ceodrillon/Viva La Mamma Central Festival Opera with one-acters by Visrdot and Donizetti, Tonight 8pm. £20 & £35. Stratton Street, W1 (01604-233082) & Green Park.

DANCE LONDON SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEA-

COCK THEATRE Paco Pena Fla-menco Presents La Musa Gicana World class flamenco dance, song and guitar. Tue-Sat 8pm. mat Sat, Sun 3pm, ends 7 Mar. £7.50-£27.50. Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222) Holborn/Temple. SADLER'S WELLS Birmingham Royal Ballet: Edward II Violence and betrayal against a background of

David Bintley Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50-£40. Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-863 8000) & Angel, HALL FOR CORNWALL Rambers

Dance Company: Triple Bill Pro-gramme includes the Rambert premiere of August Pace by Merce Cunningham. Tonight 8pm. £11-£17.50, concs available. Back Quay

LITERATURE

LONDON ARCHETYPES IN LITERATURE DON OUDSOTE'S DELUSIONS Travel writer Miranda France investigates the changing significance of Don Quixote, drawing on four cen-turies of writers. Volce Box, Royal Festival Hall South Bank 5E1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo Tonight 7.30pm, £4, concs £2.50.

IN-STORE READING - COLIN BATEMAN: MAID OF THE MIST AUthor event with light refreshments. Waterstone's Bookstore William Baker House, Broad Street (01865-790212) Tonight 6.30pm, free by

COMEDY

CAMBRIDGE TOMMY TIERNAN AND JASON BYRNE AT THE JUNCTION Irish comedy double bill, Tonight 8.30pm, Clifton Road (01223-511511) £9

NORTHAMPTON ALAN DAVIES IN URBAN TRAU-MA AT THE DERNGATE The star of Jonathan Creek performs. Tought 8pm, Guildhall Road (01604-624811( £13-£14.

HERSTERICS COMEDY CLUB AT HERSTERICS CONNEUT CLUB AT TUT 'N' SHIVE JO Enright, Meryl O'Rourke, Lucy Bayler, Nichola Hutcinson, Jane McCartney, Ilona Hacenson, Jane McCartney, Hona Colquhoun, MC Laura Shavin. Tonight 8.45pm, Upper 5treet, NI (0171-358 7719( → Highbury & Is-

**CLUBS** 

IONDON
INDIGO AT MADAME JO JO'S
Felchley Hawkes and DJ Karminsky
play easy listening. Tonight 9pm.
2am. Brewer 5treet, W1 (0171-734
2473) & Piccadilly Circus, £7, concs
hefore 10,30cm £5. before 10.30pm ES.

MOFO AT THE BORDERLINE Skater-friendly acid, breakbeat and jungle night. Tonight 11pm-3am, Manette Street, W1 (0171-734 2095) & Tottenham Court Road, £5, £3 w/flyer, NUS £2. FEET FIRST AT CAMDEN PALACE Great big indie session. Tonight 10pm-2am, Camden High Street, NWI (0171-387 0428) & Camden Town, £5, concs/NUS £3, **EVENTS** 

BRIGHTON ZOO: AN EXCHIBITION OF FAN-TASTIC AND CRAFTY CREATURES Weind and wonderful creatures de-pirted by craft numbers and designers. Hove Museum & Art Gallery New Church Road (01273-290200) Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, closed Good Friday, ends 18 Apr. free

LONDON SPRINT '99: FESTIVAL OF PHYSI-CAL, VISUAL AND UNUSUAL THE-ATRE With humour horror starytelling and dragons. Camden People's The atre Humpstend Rand NW1 (0171-916 5878) & Camilen Knen Enck 13 Feb, phone for details.

BEHIND THE SCENES Portraits of lechnicians and artists involved in the making of British films. Museum Of The Moving Image (MOMI) South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3535) & Waterloo, Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (last adm, 5pm), ends 26 Feb, £6 25, stu-dent £5.25, concs £4 50, under 5s free, family licket £17

WIMBORNE

lands Kingston Lacy Estate (01202-880413) Feb. 11am-4pm, phone to check open days, E2.50, child £1.25, (Wed £1), members free. **MUSIC** 

SNOWDROP DAYS Enjoy the spec-

tacacle of thousands of smowdrops in the extensive gardens and wood-

EXETER ANNIE CHRISTIAN, CARTOON Edinburgh-based band headline, Cavern Club Queen Street (01392-495370) fonight 8pm, phone for prices.

TERRORVISION Return to live ac-tion by Bradford's finest purveyors of twisted pop metal, Chic Hall Lon-don Road (01483-444555) Tonight 8pm, £10.

LONDON by the former singer with 1970s dis-co cowboys Dr Hook. The Border-line Manette Street W1 (0171-734 2095) O Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 7.30pm, £10.

DAVID MCALMONT Originally half of Thieves, McAlmont's soaring vo-cals gained most exposure collabo-rating with Bernard Butler, Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) & Camden Town, Tonight 8pm, £8.50.

JOHN OTWAY Pub-rock entertain ment from rock'n'roll's self-procinimed greatest failure. The Weavers Arms rington Green Road N1 (0171-226 6911) BR/O Highbury & Islington. Tonight 8.30pm, £5.

NORWICH NEW MODEL ARMY Justin Sullivan's long-running strident rock pro-ject tour the new album, Strange Brotherhood University of East Anglia Eartham Road (01603-505401/cc 764764( Tonight 8pm,

HEATHER NOVA, NAOMI Bermudan singer and songwriter who's been compared to Tori Amos and Sh-eryi Crow. The Waterfront King Street (01603-632717/cc 764764) Tonight 8.30pm, £5.

ONE MINUTE SILENCE, PULKAS, LIBERTY 37 Fresh from US tours

supporting Sevendust and Anthrax, hardcore risers OMS return to the UK for their last dates before record-

ing a second album. Wedgewood

PORTSMOUTH

Rooms Albert Road, Southsea (01705-863911) Tonight 8pm, £5. **MUSIC** 

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK OSCAR D'LEON Leading interna-tional salsa vocalist and his 18-piece orchestra. Barblean Hall Barblean Centre EC2 (0171-638 8891) • Bar-

bican, Tonight 7.30pm, £8.50-£15.50. PIZZA EXPRESS ALL STARS The mainsteamers' mainstream. Plaza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road, lonight 9pm, £8.50.

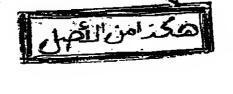
THREE'S A CROWD Actory cobards with Patricia Hodge, Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SWI [0171-235 5273] & Hyde Park Corner, Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, £18 adu. CEDAR WALTON Veteran Texas To

neobup pianist, Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) Lexcester Square. Tonight 9.30pm, LOZ SPEVER QUARTET Diversified contemporary trumpeter plays orig-inal material. Worker Stoke New-ington Church Street N16 (0171-254-6516) BR: Stoke Newington, Tonight

wington, fonight

SOUTHAMPTON JONATHAM GEE TREO Resourceful model planist touring new CD, thur Shining Reart, John Ariote Room, Staff Club, Southampton Universi-ty (01703-593600) Yought & 30pm. E6, NUS E4, cones E3.

9pm. £4, concs £3.



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- RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM )

RADIO 2

RADIO 3

6.00 On Air.

Sonata No B.

5.00 In Tune.

SKY PREMIER

(902-924MHz FM)

9.00 Masterworks.

11.00 Sound Stories.

10.30 Artist of the Week

(88-90.2MHz FM )

6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo.

12.00 Kevin Greening 2.00 Mark

Radofffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45

Steve Lamacq - the Evening Ses-

Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00

sion. 10.00 Movie Update with Mark

Kermode. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00

Blue Jam. See Pick of the Day. 1.00

Gilles Peterson, 4.00 - 6.30 Cive

6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Wake Up to

5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Nick Ber

raclough, 8.00 Mike Harding, 9.00

10.30 Richard Alinson. 12.00 Katri-

na Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dut-

12.00 Composer of the Week; Liszt.

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-

cert. Francois-Frederic Guy (piano), ive from the Adrian Boult Hall, Birm-

ingham Conservatoire. Brahms: Four

2.00 The BBC Orchestras. Conduc-

tors Andrew Davis and Vernon Han-

dley, Peter Donohoe (piano). Ravel:

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No 3 in

C minor. Berlioz: Symphonie fantas-

7.45 Performance on 3. From the

Talkington introduces a concert of

Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, Fiona

music new to London by three lead-

ing European composers. Conductor

George Benjamin, Valdine Anderson

(soprano). Wolfgang Rihm:

Gedrangte Form (first UK perfor-

mance). Gerard Grisey: Quatre

chants pour franchir le seuil (first

8.30 Boulez's Lost Symphony.

performance). See Pick of the Day.

Pierre Boulez talks to Brian Morton

posed in 1947, which he still regards

as the summation of everything he

6.00 Major Léague (1989) (61932), 8.00

The Incredible Journey (1963) (56593).

10.00 Magic in the Water (1995) (64809). 12.00 Places in the Heart (1984) (46116).

The incredible Journey (1963) (38478777). 5.45 Magic in the Water (1995) (61696628).

7.30 Barry Norman's Film Night (1574).

8.00 Everyone Says I Love You (1996) (13999). See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Inde-

pendence Day (1996) (58014623). 12.25 Awakenings (1990) (207723). 2.25 Beer (1985) (2061094). 3.50 - 6.00 Last Stand

7.00 Femmes Fatales (86222), 7.30 Action Heroes (5057338), 8.45 Movie Magic

(8708636), 9.00 Sat Billio (1996) (78715).

**11.00** Dogmatic (1996) (70393). **1.00** Femmes Fatales (85593). **1.30** Action He-

(2804406), 3.00 Almost Summer (1978)

cion of Innocence (1997) (14628), 11.00

ing of School Bus 17 (1997) (7989704). 2.05 Firting (1990) (552487). 1.45 The

Almost Summer (1978) (39629433).

SKY CHEMA

FILMFOUR

Killing Secret (1996) (970384). 5.20 - 7.00

4.00 Champion\* (1949) (42510338). 5.45

The Cape Town Affair (1967) (36677864).

7.30 Guns of Navarone (1961) (3600222)

10.00 The Life and Times of Judge Roy

Ups (1973) (9703384). 1.55 Son of Pale-face (1952) (4220636). 3.30 Hollywood

Hall of Fame (5089549). 4.00 None Shall

Escape\* (1944) (80008075). 5.25 Close.

6.00 Les Enfants du Paracis (1944) (98345512). 7.40 Syrup (1289390). 8.00

Gregory's Gir (1981) (8756319), 10.00 The Shiring (1980) (2138067), 12.05 Deer Ol-ary (1994) (3505487), 1.45 Army of Shad-ows\* (1969) (1981162), 4.00 - 6.00 Dead

4.00 Rex Hunt (3882425). 4.30 Welker's

World (3888609). 5.00 Wheel Nuts (4938883). 5.30 History's Turning Points

6.30 Adventures of the Quest (8697)

3862661). **6.00** Animal Doctor (3869574)

7.30 Beyond 2000 (3889338), 8.00 Arthur

C Clarke (4934067). 8.30 Creatures Fan-

tastic (4913574), 9.00 Life after Death: A

Nght" (1945) (8348471). DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Bean (1972) (87788609). 12.10 The S

Reaper (1997) (332512). 12.35 The Hijack

(30723). **5.00** Dogmetic (1996) (36336). **7.00** Sgt Bilko (1996) (99486). **8.30** El News Week in Review (9406). **9.00** Suspi-

at Saber Fiver (1997) (73908520).

roes (9766796), 2.15 Movie Magic

SKY MOVIEMAX

Lie (1969a) bi

about the lost symphony he com-

Valses nobles et sentimentales

4.00 Choral Evensong.

Pieces, Op 119. Prokofiev: Piano

Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruca. 12.00

Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewart.

The Andy Peebles Soul Show

10.00 Top of the Pops 2 on 2.



**EVENTS** 

AND CRAFTY CREATURE

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BRIGHTON

BRANDON HILL Quartet String क्षानीत सामा विकास Lei [17. Bear. an

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Section 19 **经免疫 第 4. 可能出** ----

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THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW

### WEDNESDAY RADIO

### PICK OF THE DAY

A CONCERT BY the London Sinfonietta of three new works from European composers. including Sur Incises by Pierre Boulez features in Performance on 3 (7.45pm R3). The latter is the subject of a profile on BBC2 tonight and also talks about his famous lost symphony during the concert. In Night Waves (10.45pm

R3), Patrick Wright assesses

knew up to that point. Shortly after

completing the piece, Boulez lost the

manuscript. Over 50 years on, he re-

calls the incident, describes his emo-

tions and remembers how the work

8.50 Concert, part 2. Pierre Boulez:

9.40 Postscript. Patrick Wright talks

figures on the cultural scene who are

distinguished by their originality and imagination. 3: Derek Bailey. Free-im-

provising guitarist of nearly 50 years'

standing, Derek Bailey was also co-

founder of the first independent, mu-

sician-owned record company in

programmes, Penny Gore investi-

gates how composers down the

the music of their predecessors.

Bach/Busoni: Chromatic Fantasy

10.00 Ensemble. In the first of two

ages have transcribed and reworked

and Fugue. Lowri Blake (cello). John

Italienne. Kyzysztof Smietana (violin),

Caroline Palmer (piano). Liszt: Para-

'Rigoletta', Alexander Taylor (piano).

10.45 Night Waves. Patrick Wright

reviews a major retrospective of the

paintings of Patrick Caulfield at the

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

IT'S AN UNREMITTING day on

(1pm) profiles Josef Stalin

(right), the man whose ruthless

millions to the extermination

Scaptical Enguiry (6584241), 10.00

Searching for Lost Worlds (6594626)

Nuts (3189075), 2.00 Close.

SKY ONE

11.00 Mosquito Story (9089864). 12.00 intrigue in Istanbul (6427926). 1.00 Histo-

ry's Turning Points (3493544). 1.30 Wheel

7.00 Count Duckula (91154), 7.30 The

Wintrey Show (76845). 11.00 Guity!

Chris Evens Breekfast Show (47135). 8.30

Hollywood Squares (19661), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (52066), 10.00 The Oprah

(96609), **12.00** Jermy Jones (74095), **1.00** Mad about You (80425), **1.30** Jeopardy

(54222), 2.00 Sally Jessy Rephael (74999). 3.00 Jenny Jones (56116), 4.00 Gufftyl (58951), 9.00 Star Trek - Deep Space Nins

(8154), 6.00 Married with Children (8628).

6.30 Friends (2680), 7.00 The Simpsons (9883), 7.30 The Simpsons (8864), 8.00

Stargate SG-1 (86845), 9.00 The X Files (90169), 10.00 Naked in Westminster

(59616), 11.00 Friends (69680), 11.30 Star

Commish (27636). 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play

7.00 Sky Sports Centre (3743116). 735 World Wresting Federation - Livewine (469883, 8.15 Sky Sports Centre

(5062319), 8.30 Racing News (35048).

9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (59628). 9.30 You're on Sky Sports (73796). 10.00 in-

Sports Unlimited (29951), 12.00 Aerobics -

side Scottish Footbel (49715). 1L00

SKY SPORTS 1

Trek - Deep Space Nine (\$1715), 12.30 The

of the Day.

Tavener, (PI)

RADIO 4

6.00 Today.

11.30 Jazz Notes

(924-946MHz FM)

9.00 NEWS: Midweek

Hayward Gallery, London, See Pick

phrase on Themes from Verdis

Lenehan (plano). Stravinsky: Suite

to five unsung, witty and engaging

might have sounded.

the painter Patrick Caulfield (right) and his personal world of interiors on the eve of a major retrospective at the Hayward Chris Morris provides some

comedy in Blue Jam (12mdn't R1): tonight's creatures include a playwright whose transcribed love-making provides scripts for the National and a family cursed with a zombie child.

DOMINIC CAVENDISH



9.45 Serial: Best American Essays. 10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; Murder, Magic and Medicine. 11.30 Tomorrow at the Same Time.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Board Game. 2.00 NEWS: The Archers. 215 Afternoon Play: Portrait. 3.00 NEWS; Gardeners' Question

3.30 The Speech Makers 3.45 This Scentred Isla. 4.00 NEWS; All in the Mind. 4.30 Thinking Allowed. 5.00 PM 5.57 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Like They've Never Been

Gone. (R) 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7:15 Front Row. Mark Lawson chairs the arts programme. 7.45 Speaking for Themselves. Ten

dramatised excerpts from the letters of Britain's great wartime leader and his wife Clementine, taken from the newly published collection edited by their daughter, Mary Soames. With Alex Jennings as Winston, Sylvestra le Touzel as Clementine, and Helen Bourne as the narrator, Part 3. 8.00 NEWS; The Moral Maze. Michael Buerk and regulars Janet Daley, Devid Starkey, Ian Hargreaves and David Cook investigate the moral questions behind the week's

8.45 Gerry's Bar, Gerry Anderson presents a final round of extraordi-

PICK OF THE DAY

the History Channel. Biography make for comfortable viewing.

rule of the Soviet empire caused years as a film-maker, he is not

millions to die. Later episodes afraid to experiment. Everyone

of Biography document the Says I Love You (Spm Sky

baleful impact of Adolf Hitler Premier), a musical romantic

(7pm), the Nazi leader, and of comedy, may be only a partial

his henchman Adolf Eichmann success, but it is worth seeing

(9pm), whose leadership of if only for the sight of actors

the Jewish department in the such as Goldie Hawn and Allen

Gestapo led to the deportation of himself crooning.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

camos. None of the programmes

The good thing about Woody

JAMES RAMPTON

Allen is that even after so many

Oz Style (39864) 12.30 Premier Snooker League (7628), 2.30 World Windsurfing (7319), 3.00 Inside Scottish Football

(77226), 4.00 Superbouts Roberto Duran

vs Sugar Ray Leonard (1724), 5.00 World Wresting Federation Shotpun (416), 6.00

Sky Sports Centre (8048), 6.30 Unbellev-able Sports (2828), 7.00 Pool (43425), 8.00 Pingside (54557), 9.30 Unbellevable Sports (64048), 10.00 Sky Sports Centre

52932). 10.45 Pool (226390), TL45 Sky

(432777). 10.15 You're on Sky Sports

Sports Centre (547154), 12.00 You're on

Sky Sports (51907). 12.30 FA Cup Specia (62704). 2.00 Ringside (36181). 3.30 Sky

Sports Centre (14879297), 3.45 Close.

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (2994767), 7.30

International Cricket (6563067), 11.00 To-

talaport (4280222). 11.30 World Windsurf-

ing (4281951), 12.00 Golf, LPGA Office

Depot (2545512), 2.00 Sports Unimited (2534777), 3.00 International Cricket (1722845), 6.00 Watersports World

(3234687) 7.00 FA Cup Special (1232425), 10.00 Golf Extra (558999) 1.00 Euro-pean Tour Weekly (5203487), 1.30 Water-sports World (4038297), 2.30 Sky Sports

12.00 World Wresting Federation Shot-gan (87383661). 1.00 Fish TV The Utimate Fishing Show (9074203). 1.30 Fish TV Fishing Tales (87303425). 2.00 Super-bouts AI vs Norton (45694279). 3.00

Centra (90650758) 2.45 Close.

SKY SPORTS 3

SKY SPORTS 2

nary tales from ordinary life. 9.00 NEWS; Frontiers. Exploding stars viewed from a mountain-top in Chile show the Big Bang is still happening. Peter Evans pieces together what this means for our expanding

9.30 Midweek, Libby Purves and guests engage in lively conversation. 10.00 The World Tonight 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets. By John Mortimer, abridged in ten parts by Neville Teller and read by Rik Mayell Part B. 11.00 NEWS; Sean Lock's 15 Minutes of Misery. Sean Lock, winner of a Time Out Comedy Award, presents the last of six programmes detailing a comic view of life from his tower block flat. With Kevin Eldon

and Hattie Hayridge. **11.15** For One Horrible Moment. 11.30 The Cheese Shop Presents the Butter Factor. Cornedy sketches with a host of new and established characters.

12.00 News 12.30 The Late Book: Lemonals Tale. By Ken Saro-Wiwa (3/10). 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

Olympic Series (FEL48526) 3.30 Gelf Fy.

Weekly (87275319), 7.00 International Cricket (51091636), 10.00 FA Cup Classics

7.30 Footbal: Eurogoals (87777). 9.00

(81715), 1.00 Cycling (87135), 2.00 Golf

(83681), 3.00 Luge (90574), 4.00 Alpine Skiing (19809), 5.00 Xtrem Sports (2512).

6.00 Start Your Engines (87999), 7.00 at (\$7593), 8.00 Tractor Puling (4624).

ofnes (35512). 12.00 Winter X Games (46075). 12.30 Close.

7.00 Crossroads (9052574), 7.30 Neighbours (4262661), 7.55 EastEnders

53119991, 8.30 The BB (8387512), 9.00

The Bit (8378864), 9.30 The House of Biott (878721), 19.30 Phoda (8374048).

11.00 Dalles (4340951). 11.55 Neighbours (78086574). 12.25 EastEnders (7953425).

.00 Just Bravo (6713870). 2.00 Dalas

(5098086), 2.55 The Bit (5500203), 3.25 The Bit (5993583), 3.55 EastEnders

Creatures Great and Small (4926048).

6.00 Dynasty (6616226). 7.00 2point4

Mum (7645970), 8.20 The Detectives

Children (3438628), 7.40 it Ain't Helf Hot,

(8179154), 4.30 Phoda (3880067), 5.00 All

9.00 Rzutid amerykatnskie (33777). 10.00 Martial Arts (36964). 11.00 Start Your En-

Winter X Gernes (6316), 10.00 Alpine Ski-ing (34863), 11.00 Luge (28357), 11.30 Tennis (29086), 12.00 Asian Gernes

tra (38764357), 6.30 European Tour

(68999512). 11.30 Close.

EUROSPORT

UK GOLD

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra.

7.30 John Inverdale's Football Night. Full coverage of all the night's action, including FA Cup fourth-round replays. Plus the National Lottery Draw. 10.00 Littlejohn. Football phone-in with Richard Littlejohn: 0500 909693. 11.00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson, including a late news briefing at 1100, and at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight and a topical late-night discussion.

100 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(1000-1019MHz FM ) 6.00 Nick Bailey, 8.00 Henry Kelly, 12.00 Requests, 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick, 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. A programme of works by Elgar. Overture in the South'. Academy of St Martin in the Fields/Neville Marriner. Pomp and Circumstance Marches. Scottish NO/Alexander Gibson. Falstaff. Scottish NO/Alexander Gibson. Froissart. English Northern PO/David Lloyd Jones. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kl-tz MW 105.8Ml-tz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Mark Forrest. 100 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.30 Pete & Geoff. 10.00 .lames Merritt. 100 Steve Power. 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allen. WORLD SERVICE RADIO

(198kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Meridian (Live). 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 Everywoman, 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today (400-700)

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari, 9.00 Scott Chisholm, 12,00 Justice with Jacobs. 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 The Sports Zone. 8.00 James Whale, 12.00 - 6.00

(8130777). 9.00 One Foot in the Graw

(81962425), 10.55 French and Saunders

8867390). 11.35 The Bill (1568932), 12.05

The BE (4492839). 12.35 The Black Adder

787297), 145 Spender (3/2856R), 2.45

Colinis Sendwich (7340100). 2.45 - 7.00

Shooping with Screenshop (54879986).

6.00 Tiny and Craw (37176999) & 20

Johnson and Friends (83076970), 6.30

Phibert the Frog (12164357). 6.40 Tiny Tales (94504512). 6.45 Greedysaurus and

the Gang (84503883), **6.50** Poles Dot Shorts (84581048), **7.00** Practical Parent-

4932). 7.30 Cailou (1232512). 7.35

ing (5250048), 7.05 Professor Bubble

Bug Alart (7038845), 7.55 Practical Par-

Friends (4584241), 8.25 Babaloos (1099661), 8.30 Caillou (8377777), 8.35

Tiny and Crew (5633883), 8.50 Practice Parenting (7973222), 8.00 Carrit Cook,

Show - Highlights (3668864), 10.00 The

Maury Povich (7588680), 11.40 Brookside (68818999), 12.10 Animal Rescue

130 Special Babies (20021947). 1.40 Be-

190 Special Babies (2012/89/1/14/90 De-yord Belidt: Fact of Fiction (867/5203). 240 LA Law (9610777). 340 Living Room (2903315). 4.00 Michael Cole (8914777). 4.50 Rolonda (818/849). 5.40 Ready.

Steady, Cook (5508154), 645 The Jerry

Springer Show (3252999), 7.05 Rescue 911 (2675715), 7.35 Animal Rescue

(2273932) 6.00 Murder Call (1350048).

9.00 Films: Dengerous Intentions (1994) (1353135). 11.00 The Sex Zone (7216116).

(9248985). 11.00 The Outst (1973) (40797512). 1.00 The Power (1988) (40882836). 3.00 The Maltese Palcon\*

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

(4970), 9.00 Cybil (11067), 9.30 Vic

er (38135), **10.30** Cheers (47883), **11.00** Seinfeld (16512), **11.30** Larry Sanders

(84990), 12.00 David Lettermen (57742). 1.00 Text (18925), 1.30 The Critic (38907).

2.00 Dr Katz (32029), 2,30 Tibs and Fibe

(48635), 3.00 Nightstand (98162), 3.30 Abbott & Costello (38968), 4.00 Close.

7.06 Clueless (5715). 7.30 Grace under Fire (9154). 8.00 Ellen (2135). 8.30 Newsradio

es' Big Night Out (55390). 10.00 Frasi-

9.00 The Maltese Falcon\* (1941)

(1941) (20583966), 5.00 Close,

12.00 COSS

2854951). 12.40 Rescue 911 (96014390).

Jerry Springer Show (5931626), 10.50

Worlt Cook (5311425). 9.30 The Roseanne

enting (4574864). 8.00 Barney and

LIVING

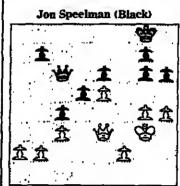
8849067), **9.40** Jonethan Creek

### INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

#### **CHESS** JON SPEELMAN

THE BUNDESLIGA met last weekend as usual at several different venues throughout Germany. Even in the absence of Michael Adams playing his match with Seirawan in Bermuda and Piket and Kasimdzhanov at Wijk aan Zee, my team, Solingen, were strong favourites both against Hamburg on Saturday and against Magdeburg on Sunday and duly kept our perfect score.

I had a fairly torrid time playing not particularly well in the middlegame but managing to gain a whole point in two endgames.



Thies Heinemann (White to play)

Owing to the doubled g pawns. Black looks slightly worse, But: 34 f4!? h5! 35 Kh3?? d4! 36 cxd4? 36 Qxd4 Qf3+ 37 Kh2 hxg4 was possibly a better chance.

36 ...Qh1+ 37 Kg3 hxg4 38 Kxg4 Qg2+ 39 Qg3 Qxb2 40 Kh3? 40 d5 was the last chance since

the plausible Qe2+? leads to a drawn pawn ending after 41 Qf3 Oxf3+ 42 Kxf3 exd5 43 Ke3 c3 44 Kd3 d4 45 a4 - my king can't advance without allowing his e pawn through, 40 ... Qxd4 41 Kg2

Or 41 Qxg6 Qd3+.

The rest was easy - it's important that if 45 Qe1 Qxe1+ 46 Kxe1 b5'. 41 ...Qd2+ 42 Kg1 Qc1+ 43 Kg2 Oc2+ 44 Kft Qb1+ 45 Kg2 Qx22+ 46 Kg1 Qb1+ 47 Kh2 Qc2+ 48 Kg1 c3 49 f5 Qd1+ 50 Kg2 Qe2+ 51 Kh3 c2 52 Qxg6 Qf3+ 53 Kh2 Qf2+ 0-1

#### Holger Probl (Black)



The outside passed pawn ought to be decisive - though if it were removed for the white knight 43 f4 would draw at once! 43 Ne3 a5 44 Nxf5 Bc5! 45 Nh4!

The only way back. 45 ... Bd4 (45 ... Bf2 46 Kg4 a4 47

Nf3 a3 48 Nd2 a2 49 Nb3 probably also won!. 46 Nf5 Bf2!? 47 g4! 34 48 g5 hxg5 49 fxg5 a3 30 g6+ Kg8 31 Kh6 Bh4!! (In the game, my opponent al-

lowed a draw with 51 ...au?? 52 Ne7+ KfB 53 g7+ Kxe7 54 g8Q a1Q 55 Qg7+ Qxg7+ 56 Kxg7 (2-1,2.) 52 Nd4 Bf6 53 Nc2 a2 54 Kh5 Kf8!

55 Kh6 Bh8 56 Kg5 Ke7 57 Kf5. OH 57 Kh6 Kd6 58 g7 Bxg7+ 59 Kxg7 Kc5 wins by a tempo.) 57 ... Kd6 5 8 Ke4 Kc5 59 Kd3 Bg7

60 Kd2 Kc4 61 Kd1 Kb3 62 Kc1 Bh8 63 Kd1 Kb2 64 Kd2 Bg7 65 Kd1Bc3

Love all; dealer South

North

**★**AJ93

**V865** 

**494** 

**♦**J972

### BRIDGE

THE BIDDING on this deal was straightforward and, as South gloomily reflected afterwards, so should the play have been. He fell. however, into a trap into which many other declarers might well have fallen. In a way, I suppose, he had followed the line of least resistance.

South opened One Diamond. North responded One Spade and, in old-fashioned style. South rebid Three no-trumps to end the auction. West led \$5 against 3 notrumps and, after winning East's jack with his queen, South took stock. Tricks were needed in both spades and diamonds (the socalled "pointed" suits) and, as the lead was very conveniently in the South hand, it seemed a good idea to start with the spade finesse.

It was not a good idea - East won and the defenders cleared the clubs. Now, when the diamond finesse failed. West came to his long clubs and declarer ended one off. Certainly both suits were need-

ed, but declarer should have resisted the temptation to play them in this order. His best line, after winning the first trick, is to play the ace and another diamond. Now, who-

West East £8742 4K6 A G a ♥K7432 ♦K4 **\$865 ♣**K 10752 **♣**J83 South **₽Q 10 5** ♥A J 10 OAQ103 **A**AQ6

ever it is that wins with the king and plays a second club, declarer holds off until the third round of the suit. After this, he can take a spade finesse in reasonable safety. If West has started with five clubs, it is all over, whether or not the finesse wins. If the missing clubs were 4-4 all the time, there will be only four losers. Only if West has made an inspired opening lead from a threecard suit will the contract be in any

### CONCISE CROSSWORD

danger.

### No.3836 Wednesday 3 February

### REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Newsline 6.30 (48), 10.15 Home Truths (947777), 10.55 Inside Story (15241), 11.45 Film; Deadly Whispers (192241), 120 Joins BBC News 24

BBC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 12.30 Dotaman (36191970). 12.45 "2chaidh Mor (Oakey Doke) (3677067). 6.00 News (96). 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Weather (48). 9.30 Ex-S (26425). 10.00 Chewin the Fat (80405). 40.30 Indida Swart Indians). HRC1 SCOTLAND (89406). 10.30 Inside Story (103406). 11.20 The X Files (508222). 12.05

RBC1 WALES As BBC1 LONDON & SE except:

ANGLIA
As Cariton except: 12.20 Anglia
News and Weather (8883135). 1.00
Shortland Street (9251338). 1.35 Home
and Away (25151845). 2.00 The Jerry ANGLIA

CENTRAL

HTV WALES ATV WALES
As Cariton except: 10.30 This
Moming (11815574). 12.15 HTV News
(7484203). 1.00 Shortland Street
(81999). 1.30 Home and Away (30828).
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show
(5136406). 3.20 HTV News (6052311).
5.10 A Country Practice (9574135).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 1.00 Next Stop... (81999). 6.23 HTV West Weath-er (227406). 6.30 The West Toright MERIDIAN

MERIDIAN
As Cariton except: 10.30 Tris
Morning (1815574), 12.15 Meridian
News and Weather (7484203), 1.00
Shortland Street (9251338), 1.35 Home
and Away (25151845), 2.00 The Jerry
Springer Show (5136406), 3.20 Meridian
News and Weather (6052311), 5.10
Home and Away (9574135), 5.37 Three
Minutes (61314), 6.00 Meridian
(64), 6.30 Birdwetch with Chris Packham (15), 10.30 Meridian News and
Wagther (862680), 1.55 The Jerry
Springer Show (2698278), 2.35 Master

Class (8740033), 3.05 Trisha (7838075). 4.10 The Making of Very Bad Things (47265655). 4.40 (TV Nightscreen (83987636). 5.00 Freescreen (60276). WESTCOUNTRY

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morring (1815574), 12.45 Westcountry News (7884203), 12.27 Illuminations

YORKSHIRE YORKSHIRE
As Cariton except: 12.20 Calendar News and Weather (3883135), 1.00
Home and Away (89730947), 1.25 The
Jerry Springer Show (4331390), 2.10
Emmerdale (7940890), 3.20 Calendar
News Headlines (6052311), 5.40 News;
Weather (990574), 5.55 Calendar
(583425), 6.30 Tonight (16), 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (89580),
4.15 (TV Nightscreen (89596723), 4.20
Jobfinder (8756015),

As Yorkshire except: 12.20 North East News and Weather (6692683). 12.25 Jobink (889164), 3.20 North East News Headlines (609261), 5.55 North East Weather (693390), 6.00 North East Tonight (19048), 10.30 North East News (862680).

(54626086), 6.40 Heno (16594593), 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (64828067), 7.30 Newyddion (8126241), 8.00 Fiermio (64835715), 8.30 Pacio (6481422), 10.00 Brookside (60516932), 10.03 Sex and the City (65923970), 11.05 Sex and the City (6764154), 11.35 Mark Thomas Comedy Product (63676425), 12.05 Music of the Millennium (33512471), 12.55 Football Italia (30385471), 4.25 Close.

and the control of th

#### **ACROSS** Compel (5)

Giving pain (6) Material used to stabilise (7) 10 Count (5) 11 For everyone (4) 12 Ancient boat (7)

13 Inquire (3) 14 Press (4) 16 Attractive (4) 18 Digit (3) 20 Large tree (7)

21 Footwear item (4) 24 Heather (5) 25 Of few words (7) 26 International agreement (6)

27 Exhaust (5)

18 Board (5) 19 Leading ligh(? (6) 22 Hair dyc (5) 23 Chilled (4) Solution to yesterday's Consise Crossword:

Legendary (6)

Memento (5)

Unlawful (7)

Adhere (5)

13 Balloonist (8)

15 Need (7)

17 Climb (6)

Hot spring (6)

Test of knowledge (4)

At reduced cost (3-5)

ACROSS: 7 Anchor. 8 Jeeves (Handkerchiefs), 10 Trachea, 11 Donor, 12 Aver, 13 Sline, 17 Agote, 16 Mayo, 22 Porch, 23 Onerous, 24 Unload, 25 Accuse, DOWN: 1 Rat-trap, 2 Scrapes, 3 Moths, 4 Dead-end, 5 Event, 6 Usury, 9 Mackstrom, 14 Egghead, 15 Barroque, 16 Holster, 19 Spout, 20 Drill, 21 Beach.

(56543100)

Film: Deadly Whispers (916094). 1.40 Joins BBC News 24 (74128433).

As BBC1 LONDON & 32 6.30 Weles Today (48), 10.15 The Slate (387680), 10.45 Inside Story (849796), 11.40 Indoor Bowls (842203), 12.25 Film: Deadly Whispers (212778), 2.00 Joins BBC News 24 (5352487).

Springer Show (5136406), 3.20 Anglia News and Weather (8052311), 6.00 Anglia News (64), 6.30 Whipsnade (15), 10.30 Anglia News and Weather 10.30 Angla News and Weather (862680). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (2698278). 2.35 Master Class (8740033). 3.05 Trisha (7838075). 4.10 The Making of Very Bad Things (47265656). 4.40 TTV Nightscreen (83987636). 5.00 Coronation Street

CENTRAL
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (8883135). 1.90
Echo Point (6199). 3.20 Central News
(6052311). 5.10 Shortland Street
(9574135). 6.00 Home and Away
(971680). 6.25 Central News and
Weather (825048). 10.30 Central News
end Weather (952680). 3.10 Trisha
(8275723). 4.05 Jobfinder (648162).
5.20 Asian Eye (7629636).

6.00 Home and Away (97:680), 6.25 Wales Tonight (82:5048), 10.30 HTV News (88:2680), 12:15 Film: True Identity (7564907). 12.40 Film: True Identity (5245758). 155 The Jerry Springer Show (2698278). 2-35 Master Class Snow (2890275), 2-35 Master Class (8740033), 3-05 Trisha (7838075), 4:10 The Making of Very Bad Things (47285655), 4:40 ITV Nightscreen (83987636), 5:00 Coronation Street

(8891154), 1.00 Emmerdale (61999), (838134). 400 Erriner date (838). 3.20 Westcountry News (805231). 6.00 Westcountry Live (16048). 10.30 Westcountry News (862890). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (2698278). 2.35 Master Class (8740033). 3.05 Trisha (7838075), 4:10 The Making of Very Bad Things (47265655), 4:40 ITV Nightscreen (83987635), 5:00 Corona-tion Street (60278),

TYNE TEES

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Ysgoion/Schools (2074048), 12.00 Home
improvement (29874222), 12.30
Sesame Street (38429609), 1.00
Planed Plant (34485715), 1.30 The
Ocean World of John Stoneman
(66215135), 1.55 Film: We're Not Married\* (21228992), 4.30 Rickl Lake
(81335512), 5.00 Planed Plant
(64808203), 5.30 Countdown
(81316364), 6.00 Newyddion
(54626080), 6.40 Heno (6594593),
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (64826067), 7.30

# WEDNESDAY TEL

# HANKS ROBERT

TELEVISION REVIEW



10

BBC1

3.25 Children's 88C( Playdays (R) (S) (8470970), 3.48 Little Monsters (S) (2340574), 3.50 ChuckseVision (S) (T) (5189086), 4.10 See II Saw II (S) (T) (3882860), 4.1 The Wild House (S) (T) (5242135), 5.00 Newsround (S (T) (2782203), 5.10 Blue Peter (S) (T) (6334845).

Neighbours. "Sally and Joel get hot", it says hero (S) (T) (713002).

6.00 News: Weather (T) (96)

8.30 Regional News (T) (48).

7,00

Changing Rooms. A mother and daughter from Bolton exchange dhing rooms (S) (T) (9703). **Dreem House.** Smart kitchens and initialable furniture – It's the future by all accounts. Adam Woodyall, meanwhile, tries out alternative-energy care (S) (T) (32).

8.50 The Netional Lottery Draw (S) (T) (259845). 5.30 Eatterson Dogs' Home. The story of regiscisd boxer, William, and tips on grooming (5) (T) (380154).

8.00 Nows; Regionel News; Weether (1) (7864).

8.30 The X-Files. Mulder discovere that his lather was involved in top-secret experiments with zombles during the Cold War (S) (T) (150338).

COMEDY IS PARAMOUNT

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

DISASTERS.

WAR.

RECESSION.

POLITICS.

BBC2

The Geography Programms (8562851), 11.40 Action (8970135), 12.00 Spanish Magazins (9 12.18 Hallo aus Berlin (7497777), 12.30 Work (45113), 1.00 Brum (84538357), 140 The Trav (2592318), 2.10 Sporting Greate (81348628), 2 Regional News; Weather (360406), 2.45 We (2507632), 3.85 News; Weather (654864), 4, Points (4395241), 4.05 Birda with Tony Soper

5.45 Buffy the Vampire Slayer. During a trip to the zoo, eome of the pupils undergo an unpleasant personality change when they get too close to some evil African hyenas (S) (T) (365999).

7.30 Tales from the Riverbenk. Geoftrey Palmer gose in search of carp (R) (S) (T) (74).

8.00 Sattle of the Sexes. Rare footags, apparently, of male lions, bonobo chimps and giant dinosaur ania displaying excust jesiousy (5) (1) (8136).

8.30 Hame Front. Kevin Allen creates two different fantasy bedrooms for two single, working women. Plus, bathroom revamps for under £300 (T) (4870).

8.00 Mereey Sives. A startling conclusion to the murder investigation. The murder equad has arrested the prime auspect but aoon learn that they might have the wrong man (S) (T) (858425).

10.00 New

11:18 Pierre Soulez: a Life in Seven Chapters. The French composer and conductor talks to Roger Wright, the controller of Radio 3 (S) (50895).

6.00 Ster Trek: The Next Ceneration. When evenis on the Enterprise keep repesting themselves, the crew reelise they are caught in a time loop. When evenis on the Enterprise keep repeating themselves, the orew resilies they are caught in a time loop (R) (S) (844512).

Newenight. With Jeremy Paxman (T) (740086).

10.40 The Big Metch FA Cup Replay. Jim Rosanthei presente highlights of the fourth-round FA Cup replays, including Cheisea ve Oxford United (47359048).

10.30 London Tonight (T) (862680).

12.00 Deepetch Box (84487), 12.30 Open University: Sax and the Single Gene (47278), 1.00 The Art of Breathing (87487), 1.30 Galapegoe: Research in the Field (28278), 2.00 Schoole: Mathematice (27181), 4.00 Languagee: The French Experience 1: 13-18 (89723), 5.00 Business and Training: Voluntary Mattera (88452), 5.30 20 Steps to Better Management (3042278). To 5.45am.

8.00 GMTV (2012262).

3.15 ITN N

8,40 New 5.10 Hom it Weather (T) (846241).

6.00 Lan

ion Sridge. Capital soap, Revi blooks Cittls inity deal. Ray has an unwekcome proposition for its (5) (16).

nerdale. Yorkshire tolk. Zoe abandona har job tor date, and Bulch catches Zak taking Balle along to him to beg (S) (T) (9241).

netion Street. After an emotional day in court, le doea aomething she will live to regret. Kevin up to the possibility of kesing the girls (S) (T) (28).

11.00 Merk Thomas Comedy Product. Our man satirises Labour hospitals and safety in the ekles (2319).

12.15 [H:[U][H] True identity (Charles Lane 1991 US).
Lenny Henry disguisee himself as a white man in order to hide from the Mob. See Film of the Day, below (S) (302742). Jerry Springer Show (1971891): 2.40 Master (9190574), 3.10 Trisha (9551839), 4.10 Soundtrax 7452), 4.15 ITV Nightscreen (8487346), To 5.30am 4.20 IIIM Whet e Crazy World (Michael Carreras 1983 UK), Vehicle for early Sixties einger Joe Brown – playing an East End pop wannabe. A Hard Day's Night It ain't. With Susan Maughan, Marty "father of Kim" Wilde and Harry H Corbett (3072636). To 5.50am.

**Trishe** (8) (T) (5718067), **10.30** This Morning (T) (56433932), **12.20** Your Shoul (8883135), **12.30** News Weather (T) (31357), **1.00** London Today (T) (81999), **1.30** The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (1987796), **2.15** Home and Away (S) (T) (41898), **2.45** Dates Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (400970).

3.25 Children'e ITV: Mopetop's Shop (3707244), 3.38 Teddybeers (3428425), 3.45 Jumanii (R) (S) (T) (8369796), 4.40 Whizziwig (T) (6594574), 4.40 Med for

e end Awey (T) (9574136).

Landon Tonight. Regional news update for the ospitol and the South-East, including a local weather bulletin (T) (84).

7.30 Coro

B.OO MIK

7.55 Music of the Millennium. The Pogues troritman Shane MacGowan selects his favourite song (1) (130951).

ER. "Day for Knight". A new series of the much-loved medical drama begins with the arrival ol a new chareoter played by Kelle Martin, a clumsy third-year medical student who tonight finds herself thrown in at the deep end (S) (T) (2048).

Carlton

EVISION

lewe Headlines (T) (9307488). 3.20 London (T) (6052311).

6.00 Lete Lunch with Mel and Sue. Gledroyc and Perkins get all arch and ironical with Meera Sysi, Nedia and Julia Sawalha and Jilly "dress sense" Gaoxien (95690).

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather, including headines at 7.30pm (B) (T) (249889).

8.00 Erookside. Mersey suds. Is something dew between Susannah and Grag? (5) (7) (3203).

10.00 DEITHE Sex and the City. Pilot episode of a new US sittom. See Comedy of the Day, below (72116).

10.30 HIDIR Sex and the City. Second episode of the double bill. Miranda dates a man obsessed with models (5) (T) (81864).

11.30 Music of the Millennium (T) (230319). 12.26 Board Stupid Gose Skiing (6288926). 12.55 Mszzenotte Football Italia (38988810). 3.20 Transworld Sport (9548094).

Channel

hannel 5

THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 3 February 1999

8.00 Chennel 4 Schaols: French Express (4159593). 8.28 Schools at Work (8461154). 9.30 Rat-a-Tat-Tat (1280338). 8.45 Book Box (1278593). 10.00 Stage Two Science (9414405). 10.15 All about Us (9437357). 10.30 Channel Hopping (7237154). 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (3960222). 11.00 First Edition VI (8553203).

WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (8832574), 7.00
WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (8207715), 7.30 Milkshake! (S) (7094929), 7.35 Wimzle's House (R) (3452241), 8.00
Hsvakazoo (R) (S) (4235715), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (4234088), 9.00 Hot Property (R) (S) (T) (827222), 9.26 Russell Grant's Postcarde (7852593), 9.30 The Opreh Winfrey Show (R) (8305777), 10.20
Sunsal Beach (S) (T) (1305970), 11.30 Lesza (S) (4714593), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (4205574), 12.30 Family Affairs (R) (S) (T) (8257048), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautillul (S) (T) (8206089), 1.30 The Rossanne Show (R) (S) (8256319), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (5402048), 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (1055628).

Powerhouse (T) (1067), 12.00 Sesame Street (81985) 12.30 Bewitched (39989), 1.00 Pet Rescue (R) (S) (T) (52241), 1.30 Roots to Success (13902593),

1.50 IIII The Faminine Touch (Pat Jackson 1958 UK). This mouldy hospital drama about tive student nuraea approaching the and of their training might have some historical-sociological interest. George Baker's name is the only one you are likely to recognise (T) (46851864). 3.30 IIIM Commend in Heil (Georg Standford Brown 1988 US). Okeyish TV movie starring Suzanne Pleehette as a temale police captain assigned to clean up a nolorious Los Angeles precinct known as "the sewer". A pre-stardom Danny Atelio helps out (9032380).

Hampton Court Palece (T) (22). 4.00 Fitteen to One (57). 4.30 Countdown (S) (5236574). 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (3890777). 5.30 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (93).

5.20 Sunset Beeah. Virginis tries to prove to Vanesse that Michael is not the lather of her baby. With the level of acling on display here, that's going to be hard (8243311).

6.30 Family Affoirs. Roy is acting very strangely, apparently, in the treumalised Channel 8 soap (S) (7) (6843845).

7.00 5 News, including First on Five. Kirsty Young pade of with the headlines (S) (T) (5406864).

8.00 ITIM Triple-cross (Jeno Hodi 1995 US). This orime drama gives employment to two actors who, briefly in the 1980s, seemed on the verge of bigger triings: Patrick

Strenge Luck (S) (9371864), 12.28 ica Hockey: Washington Capitals vs New York Rangers (S) (27824636), 4.40 The Movie Chart Show (R) (S) (85297807), 5.05 Move On Up (R) (S) (48103028), 5.30 100 Per Cant (R) (S) (9124704), To 8am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT



Hollywood always makes witness-protection programmos eound like fun, with mobsters relocated to Florida where they have nothing to do but be brash and upset the neighbours. The truth, in the UK at least, is grimmer. The police pick up your rent, but otherwise you're stripped of your identity and left to your own devices. Darren Nicholls, who grassed on some drugs smugglers who shot dead three Essex dealers in 1995, is said to have a price on his head. The family of one of the men his



SEX AND THE CITY (10pm C4, right) An explicit American TV elicom about women's sex (ives would have been stin Davis (romantic



# FILM OF THE DAY

TRUE IDENTITY (12.15am ITV) It's surprising, perhaps, that this 1991 comedy thriller didn't propel Lenny Henry (right) on to bigger (and better) things in Hollywood, because his versatile performance single-handedly keeps this picture afloat. He plays an aspiring actor who accidentally discovers that pillar of the community Frank Langella is actually a gangster who was supposed to have died years earlier. With a hitman on his tail, Henry turns to a friendly make-up artist who reinveots him as a white man. Henry's disguise is a marvel. It's a pity that the weak script and broad turns from the likes of Charles Lane and J'T Walsh can't compete.



